hinge on whether ar

and the pictures we

. min (denufici) -- ward Yard 502 Led there appearait neer no make med reger was internessis the day by estimate medany police stations. then sectioned was me unit under tie! . Carata Act. " seid it" was komman Hessel minimizer thanks active This is not a with the stop to do Vatican sacks

outspoken bis , ATTOAN CITY (IV · ----- aid Fridat

-c- Neu 2 leading

--- an anatop front

this man

haviour and bel

Jacques & Middle East Airlines from 3. .... 1982 and 8 London and Geneva - were Catholic E diverted to Larnaca in Cyprus, airport authorities said. with his unorthodors \_seed rengine from 1500 GMT. rights. A paid the first said the fi security sources said three people were killed as four and negative account to the property of the pr Israeli jets swooped down repeatedly to rocket the hills above the coastal village of outside a said Bishop 6 Na'ameh about 16 kilometres south of Beirut. tra media, refused # General Command (PFLP-General Command (PFLP-GC) has a base in the hills.
The security sources could not immediately identify the dead. Palestinian sources said they were not guerrillas.

Witnesses said the planes dived low 20 times and fired at least a dozen rockets. An Israeli helicopter came in least a dozen rockets. An Israeli helicopter came in from the coast to fire more rockets.

Liheration of Palestinehis hierarch room the coast to fire more rockets.

The jets could be seen turning above Beirut airport after firing their rockets. turning above Beirut airport after firing their rockets, Hizbollah (Party of God) radio said.

In Israel, an Israeli army spokesman said the pilots reported accurate hits on a PFLP-GC post before returning safely to base.

He said the post, in the Damour area, "was used as a base for launching attacks."

### Gingrich wants to move embassy

TEL AVIV (AFP) - The United States should transfer its TEL: AVIV (AFP) — The United States should transfer its embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem, according to Newt Gingrich, the new speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. "Brael has a legitimate right to choose its capital and as allies we should accept that," Mr. Gingrich said in an interview published Sunday in the Hebrew newspaper Haaretz. Mr. Gingrich described Iran as the "number one security problem" for the United States, but also voiced concern about Syria. "It is vital to extricate Syria from the cycle of war so that the world can tackle two major problems: the rise of totalitarian terrorism and Iran's attempt to become a nuclear power," Mr. Gingrich said. He said he was not approach to the deployment of U.S. troops on the Golan Heights as opposed to the deployment of U.S. troops on the Golan Heights as part of a peace treaty between Israel and Syria. "But I do not want to provide a blank cheque and would first like to have the defence secretary's view on the subject." Mr. Gingrich added that Syria would be the last country to receive U.S. aid, "because President Hafez Al Assad is a dictator." However, U.S. financial constraints also made it difficult to meintain the level of and constraints. also made it difficult to maintain the level of aid to Israel at the current \$3 billion a year.



جوردان تابعز يومية سَنِيَاسِيَّة تصدر عَبِالْإِنْجَليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية ،الراي،

AMMAN MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 1995, SHAABAN 15, 1415

### Jordan to withdraw unit from Croatia

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will withdraw its peacekeeping troops from Croatia as soon as the mandate of the U.N. forces deployed there ends in coordination with the United Nations, an official spokesman said Sunday. The spokesman, commenting on a decision by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman to end the mandate of H.N. peacekeeping troops in his country by March 31. mandate of U.N. peacekeeping troops in his country by March 31, said the pullous of the troops will be implemented within said the pulloul of the troops will be implemented within conditions guaranteeing the security of all the troops and ensuring their safe return home. He said the Kingdom will coordinate with the United Nations and the Security Council on the process of pulling out the more than 3,000 Jordanian peacekeepers. The Jordanian contingent is the second larges, in Croatia after the French unit. The official spokesman quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the participation of the Jordanian forces in the processee to Security. peackeeping operations in Croatia was in response to Security Council Resolution 743 issued in 1992. The mandate of the international forces, according to this resolution, is valid for a specific period of time contingent on the approval of the host country — Croatia — and the Security Council, he added.

# Saudi, Yemeni forces in standoff amid mediation

SANAA (Agencies) — Saudi and Yemeni forces faced each other in a tense standoff on their disputed border on Sunday, as Egypt and Syria tried to prevent a new clash between the neighbours in the Arabian Peninsula.

Volume 19 Number 5819

"The situation is very serious on the border, especially in Saada and Mahara provinces in northwestern and northeastern Yemen, where the two sides are building np troops," a Western diplomat here told AFP.

"The dispute is over military fortifications set up by Saudi border guards on Yemem territory, which the Sanaa government is trying to dismantle so that it can extend its anthority there."

Arab diplomats in Sanaa and Riyadh earlier reported that Sandi Arabia had been massing military forces on the border for several days, including missile launchers and warpianes.

There was no official Saudi confirmation of the military build-up.

Egyptian President Hosni Mnbarak held talks with his Yemeni counterpart Ali Abdullah Saleh in Cairo on Sunday in a hid to defuse the

In Riyadh, Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam met Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sand Al Faysal in a similar mediation bid.

Israeli air

raid kills 3.

airport

shuts Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Israeli

planes attacked a Palestinian

base near the Lebanese capit-

al on Sunday, killing three people and forcing Beirut

international airport to close

for an hour because of the

Airport authorities said

they shut the airport at 1400

GMT and diverted incoming

flights after Israeli planes

rocketed targets in the hills

only five kilometres south of

- an Alitalia scheduled flight

and two flights of Lebanaon's

The airport reopened at

Lebanese and Palestinian

The Popular Front for the

danger to air traffic.

the airport.

non in six days.

from Rome bringing Italy's new ambassador to Lebanon

Egyptian information honour guard.

minister Safwat Al Sherif said He was scheduled to meet of the Cairo talks:

"The whole meeting was dedicated to the crisis on the border between Yemen and Saudi Arabia and to try to understand their points of view (and) work more to

solve this crisis." Mr. Sherif declined to comment specifically on the reported troop build-up. Mr. Sherif said Mr. Muharak was in constant contact

with Saudi Arabia. "I believe there is a keenness to reach a decent settlement based on understanding, away from any deteriora-

tion of the situation, and by avoiding any possibility of clashes on the borders between the two brotherly states," he added. President Saleh arrived in Paris later Sunday for a

three-day visit to France. It was the Yemeni leader's first stop on a European tour expected also to include the Netherlands and Germany, Yemeni officials said.

He flew to France from Cairo, where Egyptian officials said he had briefed President Mubarak on Yemen's fraught relations with its

powerful Saudi neighbour. Mr. Saleh, whose forces last year defeated southern separatists after a two-month civil war, was greeted at Orly airport by Health Minister Simone Veil and a military

President Francois Mitterrand, Foreign Minister Alain Juppe and UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor on Monday and to leave for Amsterdam on Tuesday.

Paris had expressed support for Yemeni unity during the 1994 civil war, an aide said, and Mr. Saleh "will express his country's appreciation and gratitude for the French stand.

Mr. Saleh also planned to discuss economic cooperation with France, the aide said. Iran meanwhile voiced its

concern over the renewed border tension between Yemen and Saudi Arabia and urged the two sides to avoid using force, the official news agency IRNA reported. A Foreign Ministry spokes-

man, Mahmoud Mohammadi, told the agency that his country "closely followed the developments and was worried about the growing tension in the region."

We cannot remain indifferent towards the crisis at our doorstep," he said. Mr. Mohammadi urged

both sides to avoid a military solution and resolve their differences through peaceful

"The recent history of the region shows that resorting to force will only complicate disputes further," he said.

The two neighbours in the Arabian Peninsula have clashed several times on their disputed border since Yemen's civil war.

Another Western diplomat here said Sunday: "There have been no clashes since Tuesday, when the last armed incident between Saudi and Yemeni forces took place."

He said Saudi Arabia was using "armed Yemeni tribesmen to whom they have handed over military fortifications they huilt in the north of Saada and Mahara."

On Tuesday, armed Yemeni tribesman hostile to the Sanaa authorities and financed by Riyadb raised the Saudi flag in one area of Saada province, the Western diplomat said.

The Yemeni authorities managed to get the Sauch flag removed, but the tribesmen, who had been given Saudi identity cards, remained camped in the area, dissuading the Yemeni army from taking military action," he

The tribes, which form the basis of Yemeni society especially in the north of the country, challenge state authority in several areas which are beyond government con-

The Western diplomat said that after discussions be-

(Continued on page 7)

Jordan

### His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday plants a sapling in Wadi Araba, marking Arbor Day Arbor Day in Wadi Araba symbolises peace and hopes WADI ARABA (Petra) — The Jordanian people are tends to make Agaba a free determined to pursue all Israel,

His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday led a tree-planning ceremony at Wadi Araba marking Arbor Day and announced that the site, where Jordan and Israel signed their Oct. 26 peace treaty, would be known as our heads will remain high, the Green Peace Valley. "Our presence here today

near the crossing point of Wadi Araba is an expression of our desire to ensure the sustainability of peace." the King said.

Referring to the implementation of the peace treaty, the King said the international boundaries between Jordan and Israel would be demarcated before the end of the month.

King Hussein, who along with Her Majesty Queen Noor and senior officials planted trees at the site, said the time had come to reap the fruits of peace and security.

efforts to achieve that goal and to green their land by the end of the present century, the King said. "Our land has teturned to

us and will remain ours and . the King added.

The King expressed hope that Jordan would obtain assistance and expertise from Arab countries in the Gulf region to grow palm trees in Jordan. Referring to his scheduled

meeting on Feb. 1 with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, the King said: "We have been in constant touch with our Arab brothers, especially President Mubarak, who is a dear brother and we will discuss mutual cooperation in matters that benefit the

whole Arab Nation. Asked whether Jordan in-

zone, the King said: "Jordan is conducting a number of studies in this respect. But one cannot achieve all aspirations overnight because changing things takes time and requires careful study."

He said Jordan was moving directions to achieve what is best for its people and with regard to the development of Wadi Araba. 'We have waited pariently

for long and we need more time to see matters placed in their right perspective," he

Agriculture Minister Mansour Ben Tarif, who took part in the celebration, said the site would be transformed into a "peace forest" with trees planted over 120,000 dunums of land.

The site, he said, has been

### Kabariti heads for meeting on Jerusalem

Price: Jordan 150 Fits

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti left Amman for Morocco on Sunday to attend a meeting of the Jerusalem Committee of the Organisa-tions of Islamie Conference (OIC) due to open Monday.

In a pre-departure state-ment, Mr. Kabariti said Jordan's participation in the meeting underlines the Kingdom's position on the status of the Holy City. This posinon does not contradict the general Arah position, emphasising the Palestinian sovereignty over Arah Jeru-salem, Mr. Kabarin said.

"My visit to Morocco gives me the chance and the bonour to meet with His Majesty King Hassan (who is head of the committee) and the other Moroccan officials." Mr. Kahariti said.

"It will also give me the chance to have objective and reasonable discussions with the foreign ministers of 16 Arab and Muslim countries and will also give Jordan the chance to present practical proposals aimed at allevianing the suffering of the Arab residents of Jerusalem and stopping measures described to change the Arab and Islamic character of the Holy

City," he added.
The foreign minister stressed that Jordan would support the Palestinians in their endeavours to have Jerusalem as the capital of their future Palestinian state.

He said it was time for the Arabs to end their disputes to be able to confront the challenges facing them.

On Saturday, Mr. Kabariti and his Iraqi counterpart discussed bilateral ties and the Jordanian role in the Islamic sites in Jerusalem, official sources said.

Mr. Kabariti and Mohammad Saced Al Sahaf also discussed Arab and international developments, added the sources quoted by Reu-

Mr. Sahaf arrived in Amman on Saturday en route to Morocco to attend the key OIC meeting that is expected to discuss custody of Islamic

shrines in Arab Jerusalem. Mr. Kabariti, who has been lobbying hard to line up Arab support behind Jordan, was expected to seek Mr. Sahaf's backing before the

(Continued on page 7)

# to retain Iraq sanctions

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Lower House of Parliament on Sunday condemned the U.N. Security Council's decision last week to maintain the sanctions against Iraq. The House said Baghdad's "fulfilment" of its ohligations to the international community had rendered the embargo unjus-

brethren." In a statement issued dur-

ing a session it held Sunday, the House said: "There is no justification for continuing this unfair embargo."

at the request of Deputy Talal Obeidat (Irbid), who criticised Arab countries for maintaining the sanctions against Iraq at a time when they have lifted all "forms of boycott" against Israel.
The statement was the only

deviation from the House's agenda for the session which mainly dealt with domestic issues and approved two draft laws on the transfer and registration of property and fixed assets.

by Islamic Action Front De-

puty Ahmad Kofahi (Irbid). Minister of Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi rejected accusations by the deputy that the ministry bad stopped mosque preachers from delivering sermons for no other reason

try investigated 35 mosque preachers on charges of violating the law. Only those who were found guilty of violating the law were stopped from delivering sermons at mosques. Those found innocent, he said, were allowed back to practise their job.

Deputy Nazih Ammarin (Karak) asked the government to explain the unavailability of "important" drugs in the market while Deputy Hammad Ahu Jamous (Amman) challenged the government to find alternative employment opportunities to thousands of unemployed Jordanians in light of its decision to freeze hiring in 1995.

The House also approved, and the government accepted, the recommendations of the Agriculture Committee to look into demands by livestock breeders to raise the prices of milk to make up for the increase in production

The committee recommended that the government

# GIA backs, Algiers rejects peace offer

PARIS (Agencies) — Algeria's militant Armed Islamic Group (GIA) said on Sunday it was prepared to end its war against Algerian authorities if Algiers accepted a plan for a settlement drafted by main opposition groups.

"In order to safeguard the interests of the nation and avoid more wars, the Armed Islamie Group announces that it is ready to stop the war in the event the authorities accept the demands expressed in the document drafted by the united opposition parties in Rome," i be group said in a statement.

But the hardline GIA added that Algiers would have to do more than simply accept the joint proposal in order to win its support.

But Algerian Interior Minister Abdul Rahman Meziane-Sherif hit out at participants at last week's opposition peace conference in Rome as "retarded politicians.

"Who tries in the name of human rights to turn a fight for dignity into a political and partisan struggle? the minister asked, alluding to the president of the Algerian League for the Defence of Human Rights, Abdul Nour Ali Yahya. Mr. Ali Yahya on Saturday

had said the opposition wanted to press the government to engage in dialogue to resolve the crisis in the coun-

Mr. Meziane-Sherif made his statement, carried by the APS news agency, while addressing the opening of a seminar to prepare the way for presidential elections.

The Algiers government has yet to respond officially to the Rome conference, attended by several opposition groups, including some Islamie organisations fighting to overthrow the govern-

APS said "authoritative political sources" had refuted the tenor of arguments made at the meeting, sponsored hy the Sant'Egidio Community, a Roman Catholic peace group, without explicitly rejecting their final document.

The Rome initiative was the first time opposition groups had agreed on a common stand to end the country's crisis.

In a statement described as a "national contract," participants called for a national conference to be held as soon as possible to pave the way for free democratic elections. The document also accused

"false dialogues" to end Algeria's civil war. More than 10,000 people have been killed in Algeria

the government of initiating

since the government annulled elections in January 1992.

### . It was the first time the airport had to close since number of Palestinians. Settlers said the rocket the end of Lebanon's 1975-90 smashed through a window civil war. It was often closed and struck a kitchen wall. A by shelling during the war. The raid was the third hy girl said she was alone in the hatred of settlers." house when the rocket hit. Israeli warplanes into Leba-The rocket was a training model and lacked the explo-Three international flights

guerrillas. that 10 Law missiles of a type

# Rocket hits settler house in West Bank

Bank (Agencies) - An Israeli anti-tank rocket, fired by unknown assailants, hit a Jewish settler house in the occupied West Bank town of Hebron on Sunday, the army

said. No-one was hurt. West Bank army commander Gabi Ophir told reporters at the scene: "The event cannot be taken lightly, like any terrorist attack that occurs in this sector."

He stopped short of accusing Palestinians of carrying out the attack but the army imposed a curfew on the city centre and rounded up a

sive charge the army uses in laying siege to houses in shoot-outs with Palestinian

The Israeli army admitted

HEBRON, occupied West used for training were stolen from a military depot on the Israeli-occupied West Bank a year ago.

It was the first time for several years that Palestinians reportedly used a missile in the fight against occupation, and the army opened an immediate in-

quiry.
"Palestinians fired this missile and we are preparing reprisals," warned Hebron settler Baruch Marzel, leader of the hardline Kach movement which favours expulsion

of Arabs. Hebron settler spokesman Noam Arnon added: "The latest incidents in Hebron are a result of the government and press campaign inciting

No Palestinian group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack with the

U.S.-made missile. The army at first announced that the unarmed missile had heen launched

(Continued on page 7)

# Chechens continue to fend off Russians

GROZNX (Agencies) — Russian forces tightened their grip around the devastated Chechen capital on Sunday, but failed to seize the presidential palace or other buildings key to the

city's defence. After a day of intense artillery and air bombing, the Chechen flag still fluttered over the palace, symbolic core to the defence, and over the adjacent parliament building which the Russians claimed Saturday to have

seized. The city itself was largely flattened by weeks of air raids, and attacks by missiles and mortar shells.

Lenin Avenue, one of the main prewar arteries of the city, looked as if it had been hit by an earthquake. All its buildings were gutted. Fires were blazing in most neighbourhoods of the city.

Throughout the weekend,

the Russian forces were sys-

tematically hunting the

Chechen defenders further

neighbourhood.

week-old conflict.

The fighters resisting the Russian drive to crush their small southern region's campaign for independence held on to the presidential palace despite more of the shelling which has badly damaged the towering concrete building, their main headquarters.

early afternoon.
"We're coming back from

the palace. There was fighting all night in some of the

and further away from the city centre, destroying house by house, neighbourhood by

Fighting continued as the first planeload of emergency supplies from the United Nations landed in Vladikavkaz, just ontside Chechenya, to help refugees of the five-

Exhausted from a night of combat and covered with dust, Akhmed Kadivo, 30, led a band of fighters back from the palace along central Avturkhanov street in the

(Continued on page 7)

to build railway lines BEIT SHEAN (Agencies) -Israel and Jordan on Sunday agreed in principle to build joint railway lines linking the two countries, an Israeli official said.

Transport ministry official Ozniel Schneller said the two sides had agreed at a meeting in Beit Shean in northern Israel to build a railway line linking the Israeli port of Haifa to the northern Jordanian town of Irhid.

They also agreed on the use of a future line linking the Red Sea to the Dead Sea and economic experts discussed the transportation of goods between the two countries.

The meeting came ahead of the Jan. 25 deadline set by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rahin and King Hussein for reaching an accord on economic cooperation. The two leaders, who met

Thursday in Amman, agreed to speed up the implementation of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty signed on Oct. 26, which ended 46 years of hostilities. Israeli radio said meanwhile that the heads of the Israeli and Jordanian air

forces met Sunday to draw up air corridors over the two The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported that the Jordanian-Israeli committees on water, transport, security, borders and commerce met

Sunday. The security and borders committee discussed issues related to Israel's withdrawal of its troops from occupied Jordanian land to international borders before Feb. 10 in implementation of the peace treaty.

The commerce committee

also discussed the prospect of

exporting Jordanian goods to Israel and the transport committee dwelt on the movement of private vehicles between the two countries. The process of defining the border began on Dec. 6

under the terms of the Octo-

Israel is to return some 300 square kilometres of land to Jordan. Jordan also takes 30 square kilometres of territory in Wadi Araba.

ber peace treaty.

# House hits U.N. move

By Ayman Al Safadi

Reiterating Jordan's support for the Iraqi people, the House urged all international organisations and parliaments to exert effort to end the suffering of "our Iraqi

The statement was issued

Responding to a question

hut "speaking the truth." Dr. Abbadi said the minis-

(Continued on page 7)

# Peace on the line as showdown looms over land grab

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — New land grabs by Israeli settlers are uniting Palestinians in what is threatening to snow-ball into a majur showdown endangering the Middle East peace process.

Senior Palestinian figures have formed a National Committee to Confront Settlement and urged Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to suspend autonomy talks with

They have declared next Tuesday "national antisettlement day" and called for demonstrations at three hotspots on the occupied

West Bank as a first move. 'Hnw can you have peace when they are taking people's land away?" asked committee member Hanan Ashrawi. former spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to

peace talks.
"There can be no peace without the land, this is the fundamental issue," she told

Mr. Arafat himself has warned that Jewish settlement building will damage the peace process which was spurred by a government freeze on new construction in

The autunumy accurds "forbid the continuation of the settlement policy, the confiscation of Palestinian land as well as the arrival of new settlers," he said.

Mr. Arafat accused Israel of "slowing down" the spread of autonomy and complained of the failure to huld electinns in a self-rule councilwhich were scheduled for last

He has appealed to the United States and to the United Nations to halt colonisa-The settlements are ma-

jor sources of instability, friction and violence," Dr. Ashrawi said, noting that Palestinian protests have become a daily event. "People in these areas

know that the challenge is to be there on the spot to pre-vent the settlers from taking their land. Their livelihood and future is at stake. ----

'We bope there won't be any violence but the settlers are not known for pacifism. Violence is a fact uf life here.

"There is no guarantee against individual acts of violence as we saw in the Hebron massacre," Dr. Ashrawi said, recalling the murder of mure than 30 praying Muslims by a settler last Febru-

Settlers have upenly de-clared a "land war" to ex-pand West Bank stronghulds and building new roads to block autonomy.

We are fighting a real war for land against the Arabs and we will not back down," settler spokesman Aharon Dumh warned.

The Israeli army is readying to redeploy nutside Palestinian towns and the mure than 140,000 Jews nn the territory fear for their

They opened the offensive at the colony of Ephrat. south of Bethlehem, with the new year, and hulldozers have gone to work around several uther settlements with more promised soon.

These actions aim to consolidate our control over the land allocated to us hy the state and to prevent Arabs from taking land frum " admitted Domb, scoffing at Palestinian pro-

The PLO chairman is due to meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin this week and the Palestinians want the settlement issue at the top of the agenda.

"Arafat understands this is a question on which there is a very strong national consensus," Dr. Ashrawi said.

"There has to be a very firm political policy. Israel has been exploiting the position in urder to create facts on the ground and to change

While Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa has added his voice to the warnings of doom, his Israeli counterpart Shimon Peres has tried to play down the

"There will be no more settlements," he said. "Israel is .not .going to .confiscate land... to build settlements."

But the Palestinians noted, he did not rule out confiscations to build roads and he did rule out the expansion of settlements on "government



YOUNG CITIZENS: His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday speaks with a young boy at a celebration held in Wadi Araba marking Arbor Day (see page one) (photo by Crystal)

# Jordanians send relief aid to Chechenya

By Cathy King Special to the Jurdan Times

AMMAN - The first shipment of Jordanian aid to the war-wrecked Chechen Republie has been delivered to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and is expected to leave Amman to-

The donations of around 8.5 tonnes of medicine and baby milk have been collected by the Jurdanian Committee for the Support of the Caucasian Chechen Republic (JCSCP) and other charities.

The collection has been gathered since the intervention of Russian military forces in the hreakaway republic of Chechenya and the nutbreak of war there on Dec. 11. The aid will be shipped

hy the ICRC to Amsterdam, then to Stravlopol in southern Russia and from there in trucks to Chechenya, the JCSCP chairman, and a former minister of public works: Said Bino, told the Jordan Times. The use of ICRC chan-

nels in coordination with the Jordan Red Crescent Society to transport aid was

According to Mr. Bino, the ICRC is the only aid agency to have successfully distributed emergency sup-

plies in Chechenya.

TEHRAN (AFP) - Pollu-

tion has reached alarming

levels in Tehran and is thre-

atening the Iranian capital's

10 million people with dis-

Hundreds of thousands of

automobiles spew out

thousands of tonnes uf toxic

gases daily, leaving an almost

permanent cloud over the

capital that blocks the view of

the Alburz mountains or the

Smog has hlackened the

marble and brick facades uf

buildings, endangered trees

lining the streets, and is tak-

ing its toll on the people, causing different kinds of

physical and psychological

According to official esti-

mates, each Tehrani inhales an average of half a gramme

of lead per day Every day Tehran Radio

urges pregnant women, the

Jordan Valley ...... 10 / 20

USEFUL

sterday's high temperatures: man 16. Aqaba 22 Humidry dings: Amman 30 per cent.

and those with heart

city centre.

ease and a slow death.

ICRC delegation in Amman said that since mid-November the ICRC had provided 17 hospitals, including several in the Chechen capital of Grozny, with medical supplies to treat about 2,500 casual-

The statement added that the ICRC had access to the whole of Chechenya except the centre of Grozny and that delegates uf the all-Swiss agency had also distributed food and blankets tu civilians "affected by the raging acts of vio-

The success of the Jordaoian aid in reaching its destination, Mr. Bino said, will determine whether another shipment is dispatched.

'The ICRC has given us the names of hospitals to which they intend to deliver the aid," he said, adding that a Chechen in Moscow had telephoned to say that the Russian prime minister had promised the safe: transportation .of .humanitarian aid to Chechenya. Following appeals from the families of two Jorda-

nian studeots of Chechen origin arrested recently by ssian authorities. ICRC has said it would try tn meet them, Mr. Bino said.

"We have given the studeots' full names to the

problems to stay at home to

avoid exposing themselves to

the large amount of toxic gas

After ignoring the problem for over a decade, authorities

have begun to fight the pollu-

tion, allocating 300 billion rials (130 million dollars) for

clean-air projects, according

to the head of Iran's environ-

mental protection agency,

Tehran's influential mayor,

Gholam-Hussein Karbaschi,

has started his own cam-

paign, nrganising tree-planting campaigns and lob-

bying in have old cars re-

The municipality has also

set up around 1,000 smog

control centres throughout

the city to ensure combustion

systems conform to stan-

The mayor has also sought financial and technical assist-

ance from foreign countries

moved from the streets.

in the air.

Hadi Manafi.

dards.

Pollution threatens Tehran with slow death

ICRC so that it can ask the Russians to meet with them" and verify their condition, he said. The exact location where

the two are beld is not certaio, he added. With regard to 20 to 30 Jordanian Chechens last known to be held up in Daghestan frum where they apparently intended to

travel to Jordan, Mr. Bino said that un more had been heard of their situation. Bot he affirmed that Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdul Karım Kabariti had sent a memorandum to the Rossian parliament in-

quirog about those stranded in Daghestan. Russia has called upon several governments, incloding that of Jordan, to refrain from recruiting or transporting "mercenaries" to fight in Checheoya, a news ageocy dispatch quoted Foreign Ministry

as saying Sunday. Mr. Bino asserted, however, that no Jorda-mans had left the Kingdom to joio the battle io Chechenya.

spokesman Grigori Karasin

"Jordanians of Checheo origin who have been studying there or those who returned to line obviously be involved in the fight for Chechenya," but no-one has left Jordan specifically to join the cause, he said.

in a bid to improve Tehran's

air quality. Iran and Japan

signed an agreement last October for joint cooperation

At a seminar which opened

here on Thursday, environ-

mentalists and health experts

called for "urgent action" to deal with the health hazards

One expert warned that the intake of lead could main-

ly harm the brain and ner-

-vous system and cause brea-

Another expert estimated

that the level of hydrocar-

bons in the air in Tehran was

100 times more than the aver-

age in other metropolitan

plained of breathing prob-

lems, lack of appetite, gener-

al fatigue and nervousness,

he said warning that the pollution could be linked to

HOSPITALS

Many Tehranis had com-

in pollution control.

of the pollution.

thing problems.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

AFP adds from Moscow: Russia has called on Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Jordan to stop the recruiting or transport of "mer-cenaries" to fight in Chechenya, Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigori Karasin

In a statement to the ITAR-TASS news agency, he said ambassadors of the five countries had been summoned and told of Russia's concern at reports of large numbers of "mercenaries" fighting for Chechen rebels against Russian forces.

Moscow called on Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan to stop the recruiting of Afghan "mercenary" bands in Afghanistan and in Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan, and to stop these baods from reaching the Russian border. Mr. Karasin also asked

Saudi Arabia and Jordan to stop the "illegal penetratioo" by their citizens into Russia to fight on the side of Chechenya, which is under attack by Russian forces trying to crush its secession from Moscow.

He said several dozen Jordanian and Afghan "mercenaries" had been captured by Russian forces io Moscow also alleges that

aboot 80 Lithuanians are fighting for the Chechens, along with about 50 Ukraiman nationalists.

Seventy five per cent of the

pollution comes from traffic

in a city which has doubled in

population since the 1979

slamic revolution. Some 700,000 trucks,

buses, cars and motorcycles

each day belch daily around 3,000 tonnes of carbon mono-

xide, 450 tonnes of hydrocar-

bons, 120 tonnes of azote

dioxide, 30 tonnes of sulfur

oxide and two tonnes of lead,

Another 30 tonnes of va-

rious other chemicals are

spewed into the air, accord-

The problem is aggravated

by tens of thousands of nid

cars running on low-quality fuel and with poor combus-tion linked to the city's high

altitude - between 1,000 and

1,700 metres (3,600 and 5,600

The city is situated on the slopes of the Alburz moun-

**FOR THE TRAVELLER** 

ing to official estimates.

officials say.

### Inter-faith team urges Vatican influence to solve Jerusalem dispute

"It didn't succeed and didn't

have to concentrate on reli-

However, Mr. Nijim said there should be a unified

Islamic discourse as a first

step for a strong Muslim-

Christian dialogue. Jews

should also be invited to par-

ticipate to reach an equitable

memorandum to the Vatican,

stressing the need for protec-tion of Muslim minorities all:

over the world, especially in.

Bosnia-Herzegovioa and

Chechenya. It also dealt with religious mioorities and

"Muslim minorities should

be protected in Europe and abroad since Christians and

other religious minorities are.

Arab worlds," Mr. Nijim ·

Senator Kamel Sharif, who.

headed the 12-member de-legation that included repre-

sentatives of Egypt and

Senegal, said enhancing,

Christian-Islamie dialogue

was oot easy. According to

the senator, there are still obstacles facing Christian

ity and Judaism are very.

close," Mr. Sharif said. "We

should not forget that Christ-.

ians and Jews are not divided .

over a conflict as it is the case.

between Muslims and Jews in-

But, he said, the door-

"If Israel showed good in-

should be open for a dialogue

tentions for peace, especially

in what concerns Jerusalem,; then the road is open for

dialogue, especially that.

religion and Arabs and Jews

have lived side by side over.

several periods of time," said.

between Arabs and Jews.

"The prigins of Christian-.

Mushim movements.

Palestine."

protected in the Muslim and

persecution facing them.

The delegation submitted a

solution to Jerusalem.

restore us our rights. We

gious discourse."

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times-

AMMAN — Christian and Muslim clergymen from Jordan and other countries have urged the Vatican to use its spiritual influence to protect minorities in Jerusalem and speed up Arab-Israeli negotiations over the final status of the Holy City.

The clergymen, members of a Muslim-Christian delega-tion which just concluded a three-day visit to the Vatican, voiced their concern over the Judaisation of Arah Jeru-salem and said Arab Jerusalem should not be internationalised but he restored to Arab sovereignty.
"We underlined the special

need to hasten talks on the final status of Jerusalem," said Ra'ef Nijim, a member of the inter-faith delegation which met with the Pope John Paul II as well as the foreign ministers of the Vatican and Italy. "Otherwise Jerusalem will be completely Judaised."

At present, 155,000 Jews and 152,000 Arabs live in East Jerusalem. In 1918 there were only 10,000 Jews in all Jerusalem while there were 30,000 Arabs. In 1948 the number of Jews was 100,000 in West Jerusalem and the number of Arabs was 140,000 in East Jerusalem.

"In a couple of years the number of Jews in East Jerusalem will double that of the Arabs," said Mr. Nijim, also a member of the Ministry of Awgaf's Committee for the Restoration of the Holy

Mr. Nijim stressed the need to enhance Christian-Islamic dialogue as a means to ensure the religious rights of Christian and Muslim minorities in Jerusalem. "Political discourse proved to be weak," Mr. Nijim said.

**Settlers ban American** diplomats from colonies ?

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Israeli settiers called Sunday for officials fromthe U.S. consulate in Jerusalem to be barred from all. settlements, branding them as "spies." The council for the 144

Jewish settlements on the occupied West Bank and autonomous Gaza Strip said any . U.S. consulate represcutative charged with monitoring the Spread of settlements should be turned away.

We have to ban these spies from entering our areas, but without resorting to vio-lence," the council wrote. It also said any Palestinians

accompanying the diplomats whether they were drivers or technical advisors should be

held for as long as possible.

The U.S. consulate provides Washington with regular reports on the colonies after Israel pledged in November 1992 to freeze settlement building, except for around Jerusalem, aod agreed not to build any new

Funding supplied by Israel for settlement building work is directly deducted from U.S. loan guarantees. Diplo-mats said the deductions had reached more than \$200 million for the financial year 1994-1995. The issue has been thrust back into the spotlight with settlers piedeing "a land war" to expand their West Bank communities, and the Palestinians warming it could endanger the peace process.

Trees planted Duzens of Palestinians

Royal Jordanian (RJ)

14:00 14:30 17:05

Muscat. Abu Dhabi (GF) ..... Hudaideh (IY) ..... Kiev (6U)

planted trees Sunday on land-confiscated by Israel for set-tlers on the West Bank: Operatioo "Tree Day" took place at five different:

sites across the territory. where settlers have launched a land grab ahead of the. redeployment of Israelitroops, which is under nego-. tiation as part of the Palestinian autonomy accords.

On a hillside near the settlement of Kokhav Yaakov. Israeli soldiers took identity. cards from numerous Palestinians and threatened not to. return them unless they stopped planting saplings. But there was no violence.

and most people just ignored. the army.

"I came bere with my father to stop the settlers? taking our land," said sevenyear-old Nasser Hussein.

"We have been planting peach trees since dawn," said one old man in traditional Arab dress.

The army seized several bundred hectares of land around Al Birch in December, announcing that they were needed to build a road to enable settlers to avoid-Palestinian areas.

However, the former mayor of Al Birch, Saleh Abdul Jawad, doubted that the land would be used only for a road.

"It is quite possible that the Israelis use this as a pretext to expand Kokhav Yaakov," he said.

HIJAZ RAILWAY

TRAIN Dep. Amman 8:00 every Monday Arr. Damancus

5:00 p.m. every Monday

"And anyway the long-term aim of confiscating landis to suffocate Al Birch hystopping it from growing."

# Make Turino a ' Fixure ' in your plan Express Lunch 45 minutes guaranteed Grilled Chicken, Veal, Beef, Hammoor Fish, Soup, Salad, French Fries :-Lunch: JD 8.00 All Inclusive

Special Jan 95 Menu At **Turino** 

# Dinner : JD 9.00 All Inclusive (Except Thursdays)

Check details	as you dine.
Turino - S	weifiyeh - 863944
market was a second	And the second s
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	De la Saile Church Tcl. 66175 Terrassucta Church Tcl: 62236 Church of the Amenication T 623541. Anglican Church Tcl. 630851, T
PROGRAMME TWO 17:90	628543. Armenian Catholic Church T 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church T 775261.
19:00 News In French 19:15 Magazine Sportif 19:30 Black Beauty 19:50 Boogies Diner	St. Ephraim Church Tci. 7717: Amenical international Church T 652526. Evangelical Latheran Church T 824328.
18:30 Street Hawk 11:10 Shades of L.A. 12:00 News in English 12:20 Louisiana	Germsh-speaking Evangelical Cogregation Tcl. 684195 The Letter-Day Salants Tcl. 6549 Church of Nazarene Tcl. 675691 The Evangelical Local Church Ammen
PRAYER TIMES	Tcl. 811295
5:10	WEATHER

20-30		gregation Tcl. 684195 The Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 6549 Church of Nazarene Tcl.67569 The Evangelicsi Local Church Ammen Tcl. 811295		
	05:10 Fair 06:12 (Sunrisc) Daha	WEATHER		
	11:45	Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.		
	CHURCHES  St. Mary of Nazareth Church	Temperatures are expected drop with a chance of rainful in the northern regions. In Aqaba, with will be northerly moderate and so		
	Assemblies of God Church, Tel.	calm. Min /Max. temp.		
	632785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Autumolution Tel. 637440.	Amman		

2. July 1. Jul
Church Tel. 661757 Church Tel: 622366 the Ameniciation Tel.
burch Tel. 630851, Tel.
Catholic Church Tel.
Orthodox Church Tel.
n Church Tel. 771751. ternational Church Tel.
Latheran Church Tel:
esiding Evangelical Con- ici. 684195 Day Saints Tci. 654932 Nazarene Tci. 675691 elicai Local Cherch in
EATHER

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Bassim Qaddumi 648633
Dr. Jum'a Abu Dhiab 75884
Dr. Yousef Abdo 694916
Dr. Yousef Al Faqih 756989
Firas pharmacy 66[9].
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmary 62367.
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmcisani pharmacy 637660
Nairouth pharmacy 62367.
Najib pharmacy 847632 IRBID:
Dr. Ali Al Oman 27203
Alques pharmacy (—
ZAROA:
Dr. Ahmad Al Tarifi 90080
Khalifeh pharmacy 98541

### **EMERGENCIES** Food Control Centre . Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 63034 Civil Defence Emergency 19 Rescue Police 192, 621111, 63777 Fire Brigade 61710 Blood Bank 77512 .... 630341 Highway Police .. Traffic Police 896390 Public Security Department 630321 Hotel Complaints ..... Vater and Sewerage (directory assistance) -Overseas Calls ..... Central Amman Telephon Repairs 623101-Abdalı Telephone Repairs 661101 Water Authority \_\_\_\_\_\_ Jordan Electricity Authority 815615 **Electric Power**

Queen Alsa Intl. Airport 08-53200

MMAN: dussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Chalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6	QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONA AIRPORT
Akilch Maternity. J. Amn.  642441/2  abal Amman Maternity. 642362  Malhas. J. Amman. 636140  Palestine. Shmeisani 664171/4  Shmeisani Hospital 669131  Jniversity Hospital 345845  Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9  Al-Ahli, Abdali 666127/37  Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6  tafian, Al-Muhajreen 77/101/3  Al-Bashir. J. Ashrafich 775111/26  Army, Marka 891611/15  Caccar Alia Hospital 602240/50  Amal Hospital 674155  Zarqa Covt. Hospital (09)983323  Zarqa National Hospital (09)986732  Millimm Matern Hospital (09)986732	ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian Flights (Terminal 1)  00:20

. (03)314111

. AIRI	TIAL WHISTORY I LANGUE
644281/6	AIRPORT
- Ams.	
642441/2	
rnity 642362	
636140	ARRIVALS
i 664171/4	
669131	Royal Jordanian (R
\$45845	Flights
ai 667227/9	(Terminal 1)
666127/37	98:29 Sanza (I
664164/6	09:35 Jeddah (1
en 777101/3	67:66 Damascus (F
lich 775111/26	09:15 Aqaba (1
891611/15	07:55 Beirut (F
i 602240/50	09:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (F
67415\$	10-00 Dubil, App Digital (F
	10-00 Dhahran (F
	10:00 New Delhi (F
al (09)983323	16:50 Cairo (F
pital	17:00 New York, Amsterdam (F
(09)900560	19:05 Bangkok (F
(09)986732	19:10 Casablanca, Turtis (F
(09)986732 pital (09)990990	
1 1031375565	

97-35 ....

AIRPORT	
ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
99:29 Sanaa (R1) 99:35 Jeddah (R1) 99:00 Damsseus (R1) 99:15 Aqaba (R1) 99:55 Behrut (R1) 99:55 Behrut (R1) 19:00 Dhuhran (R1) 16:00 New Delhi (R1) 16:50 Cairo (R1) 17:00 New York, Anssterdam (R1) 19:05 Bangkok (R1) 19:10 Casablanca, Tunis (R1)	
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
68:45	

	12:00   Louden (RJ)   12:20   Frankfurt (RJ)   12:45   Cairo (RJ)   19:45   Bahrain, Doha (RJ)   26:30   Abu Dhabi (RJ)
	21:25 Dubai, Muscat (RJ) 22:30 Damascus (RJ)
	Other Flights (Terminal 2)
-	06:00
	13:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Mascat (GF) 14:00 Khartouri (SD)
	15:00 Sansa (TY) 15:30 Kiev (6U) 19:15 Dubai (EK)
	62-26 Amsterdam (KL) 62-35 London (BA)

	Arr. Amman	cvery Sunday
	MARKET	PRICES
	Uppenlower price	in fils per kg.
	AppleBanana	700/ 400
	Banana (Mukamm Cabbago	ar) 620 200 / 120
	Caudiflower	130/40
	Cucumbers (large) Cucumbers (small)	180 / 100
	Garlic Grape Fruit	600/400
	Lemon	270 / 16A
	Marrow (large) Marrow (small) Onion (green)	300 / 200
	UDBOD (GEV)	350/ 290
	Orange Pepper (hot) Pepper (sweet)	540 / 300
•	Radish	
-	String Beans	
_	Tomato	



concerning them

Street facing Chies

and Judaism are

Sharif said

if and and tot det that Ch

And have are not det

ive: a confinct as it is the

nervier Muslims and le

retweet Arab; and In

entities for peace, espe-

n what someoms Jense

tapecially s

American

m coloni

the of the West Barr

Contacts Treat

grant of ke

near the

El 1507 13

Street on the stock of

inger there unless that

= --- <u>-</u> 1, no ne

til and the second

- . - . - . in 1736 and selected a

- .... estates of

- Strek a De

ouid at

e and the used

possible this 25 and Kos

the same the

TRAIN

Action Contract Res

Janasan a water

A Demission of the Sec.

- granar - and se.

11

1.277 -- 1 greas

<sup>2</sup>4.47 (1.3

da Sacra

Mosim movements.



# The delegation submits memorandum to the Vacstrating the need for personal court the world expectation of Muslim minorities. Ensure Herzegovine Chachenie It also dealer the minorities of the minorities of the court of the minorities. 1994 work-related accidents Vasitin minorities to kill 23, injure 13,695 — SSC

Settorer Kamel Shant, headed the 12-member legation that included by death of 23 people and injury to 13,695 others in 1995, according to the head of the Workers Health Safety Insti-Services of Egypt Services Sand Schape Charles of Egypt Services Sand Schape Charles of Egypt Services Services Services According to Services Serv tute, Abdul Rahim Abdul Jaber, who was quoting figures reported to the Social Security Corporation (SSC).

Mr. Abdul Jaber told the opening session of a two-day meeting organised by the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Sunday that nearly 28 per cent of the total number of injuries occurred in the engineering, metal and electrical industries, and 17.6 per cent in the construction sector adding that nearly 60 per cent of the injuries were to the workers' limbs, parti-cularly the hands and legs. He said the figures indicate that workshops and factories lack safety and protective equipment for their employees and proper safety instructions for machinery and equipment used by their

VTC Director General Ahmad Atwan opened the session, attended by representatives of 18 organisa-

Dr. Atwan said that Jordanian institutions are in need of trained and qualified per-sonnel in occupational bealth safety matters to help reduce the number of injuries and losses which cost the country millions of dinars annually and suffering to workers and their families.

Dr. Atwan reviewed VTC's efforts to train and recruit workers in cooperation with various public and private organisations and employees in Jordan.

Participants to the two-day workshop on rescue operations in closed premises organised with assistance from Canada will discuss topics related to rescuing trapped workers, protection of employees working in dangerous areas, dealing with chemical and inflammable materials, protective equipment for workers and other relevant

### See he said, the t Birth control workshop focuses on in istar' showed gog characteristics of Depo-Provera

And Sand AMMAN (J.T.) - A threeday workshop on the use of a birth control drug, which has 45 473. "15 528 of tale," ( been approved by the Ministry of Health, Sunday started here under joint sponsorhip by the ministry and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) at the University of Jordan.

According to the university the drug, Depo-Provera is administered to women every three months in a single injection dosage form.

A university statement said and the second state of that 15 gynaecologists and :: ... the re- obstetricians employed by the health ministry, the UniJordanian Family Planning Society (JFPS) are attending the workshop to learn about the drug's characteristics. Depo-Provera bas been

tested and used in the United States, the United Kingdom and other countries, and was found to be an effective, and comparatively safe birth control drug, according to the statement. It said that the bealth

ministry has approved and registered Depo-Provera, adding that it can only be dispensed by prescription and administered by a specialist. Meanwhile, the Jordanian Family Planning Society Sunday announced that it was organising a worksbop in cooperation with the Ministry of Yonth next Wednesday in Amman.

The three-day worksbop, which is to be attended by 42 youths from Jordanian universities and youth centres, will have as its theme: "Educating the Youth — the Wealth of the Nation."

In addition to bealth and sound family planning programmes, the workshop will address issues of concern to youth and related to socioeconomic matters, youth problems and community

### 'Food in sufficient supply for Ramadan'

AMMAN (Petra) — Food- meeting in his office that the stuffs are in sufficient supply ministry will tighten meato meet the local market's requirements during Ramadan, and additional shipments of imported meat and vegetables are expected every week during the month of fasting which could start by January 31, according to general of the Ministry of Supply.

Mr. Khleifat Sunday told a 45,000 heads per week) and the ministry warehouses have in stock about 87,000 tonnes of frozen meat and 5,000 of

sures to ensure that food prices are within regulations. Often, prices rise sharply during Ramadan. According to the ministry, there are 150,000 beads of live sheep in the country (with expected shipments of

The Military and Civil Service Consumer Markets are well-stocked, and the Agricultural Marketing Organisa-tion (AMO) has been asked to purchase additional quantities of onions and potatoes to meet market needs, Mr. Khleifat said at the meeting which was attended by consumer market directors and other concerned officials.

# Industry chamber, Nablus commerce group sign agreement on information exchange

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Chamber of Commerce of Nablus, which also serves Jenin, Tul-karem and Qalqiliyeh, has signed an agreement with the Amman Chamber of Industry on cooperation in exchange of information and participation of events organised by the Jordanian industrial com-

It was the second agreement signed by a delegation representing the Nablus Chamber of Commerce and headed by Muath Nabulsi, its president, with a Jordanian organisation in two days.

On Saturday the delegation signed an accord with the Amman Chamber of Commerce on promoting trade and investments in Jordan and Palestine. The accord between the

Nablus Chamber of Commerce and the Amman Chamber of Industry was signed by Khaldoun Abu Hassan, president of the Chamber of Industry and Mr. Nabulsi on Sunday after a meeting held at the Amman

Under the agreement, the Amman Chamber of Industry would exchange information with the Nablus chamber, offer it results of market research and data, invite it to participate in local events organised by Jordanian industries, train personnel, and also provide it with details of the legal framework that guides the work of chambers

In addition, it will also help the Nablus chamber to expand its library and reference material.

The two bodies will hold periodic meetings and "keep each other updated about developments on both sides." said an official of the Amman Chamber of Industry.

The official said the accord

cleared the way for the Nablus Chamber of Commerce to attend a three-day seminar being held in Amman next week on access to international markets under trade agreements and also to an industrial fair to be beld here on the occasion of Jordan's Independence Day on May

The Amman Chamber of Industry already held a training course for computer specialists from the Nablus chamber, the official said.

Nablus has a relatively developed base in the West Bank and has been a traditional source to the Jordanian market for vegetable oil, stones, soap, and agricultural produce.

The Amman Chamber of Industry signed a similar cooperation accord with the Palestinian Chamber of Commerce in Jerusalem last month. These agreements complement each other and raise the potential for Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation, Mr. Nabulsi said

While the private sectors from both sides of the Jordan River are increasingly coming together to map out cooperation, the non-ratification yet of a broad accord on economic relations between Jordan and the Palestinian territories is widely seen as a serious impediment to realise many joint projects in the private

The agreement, signed in January 1994 and amended in August, calls for strong relations between the public and private sectors of both sides and for concerted interaction in many areas.

According to sources, the amended draft accord remains unratified on the table of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, who also heads the Palesunian National Authority (PNA).

The issue is expected to be discussed during an expected visit of Mr. Arafat to Jordan

### Germany provides 3 cars to help PSD combat drug trafficking

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Public Security Department (PSD) Sunday took delivery of three new cars and equipment provided by the German government for the PSD's Anti-Narconics and Anti-Forgery Department.

The delivery was part of a 15-year-old protocol signed between Jordan and Germany whereby Bonn has helped to provide for new equipment, including helicopters, cars, monitors, computers, telescopes, videos and other equipment used in

combating drug trafficking. The protocol also calls for the exchange of experts, according to Colonel Nazih Shara'edeh, director of the department.

This is part of the annual help from the German government to huy the equipment we need depending on the budget provided by the German government," Col. Shara'edeh told the Jordan

"These supports are the result of our department's efforts to control drug trafficking which is appreciated by the German government," he added.

According to Col. Shara'edeb, Jordan is considered the defensive line in drug smuggling "since drugs are produced in neighbouring into the country because of our geographic position."

Heinrich Reiners, German amhassador to Jordan, said that there has been a long and excellent relationship between Jordanian and the German police. "We support the Jordanian

police by training them bere or in Germany, and sometimes German police come to Jordan and give lectures," Dr. Reiners told the Jordan

. According to Dr. Reiners, the protocol does not restrict the department to purchasing only German-made products and thus the delivery Sunday of three Japanese-made vehi-



Public Security Department Director Lieutenant General Abdul Rahman Udwan (right) and German Ambassador to Jordan Heinrich Reiners (second right) Sunday inspect police monitoring equipment delivered to the Anti-Narcotics and Anti-Forgery Department

Rahman Udwan, who received the equipment from

Lieutenant General Abdul Mr. Reiners, said Jordan had made great strides in combat-

# Seminar to tackle how exporters can meet world accord trade requirements

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - A lack of full awareness of trade systems and an inability to meet demand have been the major factors that keep down the pace of Jordan's drive for export-led economic growth, says an international expert in trade.

While the shortages in production capacity to meet addressed but through expanding facilities as possible under available resources, level of awareness of preferential trade accords could be used through detailed briefings and workshops, according to Stefano Inama, a U.N. expert on international

Raising awareness "is what we intend to do" at a Jan. 22-24 seminar on Jordan's access to international

markets through the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP), the Kingdom's trade accord with the European Union (EU) and mechanisms available under the World Trade Organisation (WTO), Mr.

Inama said.

According to Mr. Inama, a senior expert serving the Geneva-based United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNters would be able to take full advantage of the trade accords when armed with full knowledge "of the theoretical and practical aspects of applying the agreements."

The central theme of next week's seminar, organised by the Chamber of Industry in cooperation with UN-CTAD and financed by the government of Italy, is precisely how Jordanian exporters could meet with the requirements of trade under these accords.

Also reviewed at the seminar would be Jordanian-Italian trade relations in view of Rome's new concentrated approach within the context of a fresh European Union appreach to achieving a better balance in economic relations with the Mediterranean region, which includes Jor-

The EU approach to the Mediterranean region marks a shift away from Eastern European countries and comes in the wake of the breakthroughs in Arab-Israeli peace negotia-

Among those scheduled to address the seminar are Chamber of Industry Chairman Kbaldoun Abu Hassan, UNCTAD Coordinator Teruo Ujne, UNDP Representative Osman

Hashim, Minister of Indus-try and Trade Ali Abul Ragheb, Italian Trade Ministry official F. Valenti-ni, Chamber of Industry advisor Ali Dajani, Mr. In-ama, Italian trade expert M. Saladini, European Commission official Jean-Pierre Pierrad, and U.S. trade representative official H.J. Rosenbaum.

Hashim, Minister of Indus-

"There are many aspects to the trade systems, includf origin and customs classifications," Mr. Inama told the Jordan Times in an interview. Once exporters know what regulations guide their ex-ports and what requirements have to be met, then the process gets easier, be noted.

Jordan is one of the beneficiaries of the GSP under which developed countries offer customs duty-free treatment to imports from developing countries under a set of prerequisites. The Kingdom has also signed a new trade accord with the European Union and is poised for a gradual entry to the WTO, which is expected to replace the General Agreement on-Tariffs and Trade (GATT) by 1997.

The seminar will seek to discuss the various aspects of these agreements and highlight how Jordanian exporters could consolidate their access to international markets through these accords, and what they could and should do to meet the requirements laid down under the accords.

"Once you know the rules, you can better apply the systems and take advantage of the preferential treatment that some of the importing countries are offering to your exports," Mr. Inama noted.

# A roadside view of peace

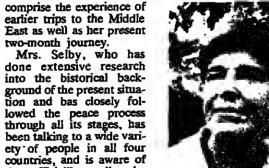
### By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - How do the people of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Israel feel abnew book of travel writer
Buth Bettina Selhy will explore
doubted this issue from a new peace process? The out the peace process? The pective - that of a woman travelling from Lebanon to Israel on bicycle.

Account No. Mrs. Selby, who holds a degree in history and world religions, harbours a long interest in the region his-Al Bud torically known as Greater Syria, which she refers to as the Holy Land. "Bnt," the author said in IJAZ RAILWA

an interview with the Jor-dan Times, "I did not think that I would ever write a book about this particular region, for it used to be too painful to be in an area so full of bostility."

It is the peace process which has made her want to write this book, which will



the "official" as well as the "unofficial" view of peace. In her opinion, cycling is the best way of exploring a country, for it allows the most immediate contact with the population. She expects "to be considered a little strange, but people appreciate that you

are making a special effort to see their country. "Tourists who travel in cars remain distant, 'rich foreigners'. I'm a 'rich foreigner too, but at least I sweat and look exhausted.



Bettina Selby

It breaks down barriers." Mrs. Selby spoke with fondness of her kind and

warm reception in Jordan ber present station. Particularly memorable

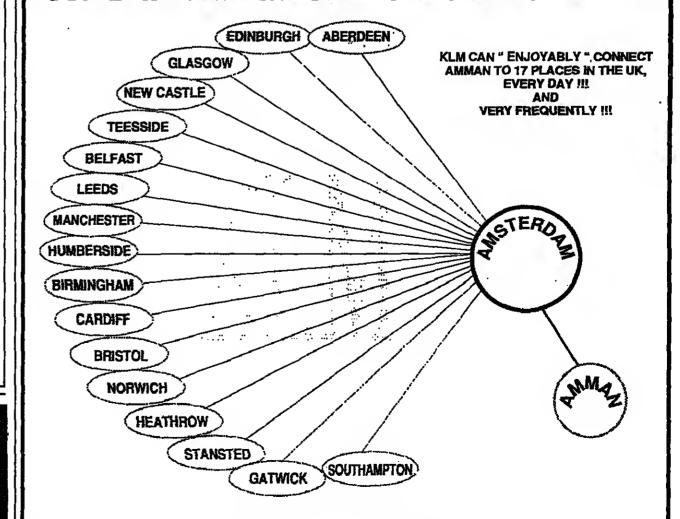
was the night she spent in Jerash: given that there are no hotels there, and seeing that there was no way she would reach Amman on her bike that evening, the tourist police huilt a bed for her in the tourist reception

The author sees herself as following in the foot-steps of the "British Victorian lady travellers." Previous adventures on

her bicycle have taken her from London to Jerusalem following the route of the Crusaders, 5,000 miles down the Nile into wartorn Sudan, from Karachi to Katmandu across the Himalaya mountains, and along the Niger to Timbuk-

She has published books in English and German on all her trips.

# UNITED KINGDOM IS NOT LONDON!



For information contact your travel Agent or KLM tel. 655267

The Reliable Airline KLM

### MARKET PRICE WHAT'S GOING ON

### SOUTH AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL

★ Film entitled "Have You Seen Drum Recently?" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

### FILMS

☆ Film (in French) entitled "Tirez Sur Le Pianiste" at the French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

Film (in English) entitled "The Life of Leonardo Da Vinci" (Part II) (with commentary in Arabic by Dr. Khalid Khreis) at Darat Al Funun at 5:30 p.m.

### CONDOLENCES

The Chechen and North Caucasian community in Jordan mourns the death of the German journalist, **Jochen Piest,** in Chechenya.

The community extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to his family and to the German nation.

# Serbs refuse to open Sarajevo routes

SARAJEVO (R) — Roads in and out of Sarajevo remained closed Sunday despite a promise by the Bosman Serbs that they would be opened as part of a ceasefire agreement, the United Nations said.

The U.N. planned to resume negotiations with a Serb liaison officer at the city's airport in pursuit of a compromise that would allow the routes to open.

are still closed and it is not clear why," said U.N. spokesman Chris Gunness.

a.m. (0700 GMT) Sunday. U.N. spokesman Colonel Gary Coward said the United Nations had assured the Serbs that only bumanitarian and civilian traffic would be

allowed to pass.

If lower-level negotiations did not work, a United Nations delegation possibly led by the U.N. commander in Bosnia, Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, would have to go to the Serb headquarters at Pale later in the day to take up the issue with

**U.S.:** No

progress in China

BELJING (AFP) - China

has failed to make any prog-

ress in key areas of human

rights over the past year, Washington's top buman rights official said here Sun-

day after more than two days

of talks marked by deep-

During meetings with senior Chinese officials, U.S.

Assistant Secretary of State

for Humanitarian Affairs

John Shattuck said he had

appealed on behalf of the

Clinton administration for

the release of several, high-

profile political detainees, in-

cluding the country's most

famous dissident, Wei Jin-

human rights situation in Chi-

na has not improved in areas

of special concern to the

American people," Mr. Shat-

tuck said, citing "serious problems" affecting freedom

of speech, association and

of restrictions and efforts to

limit certain individuals from

participating broadly in acti-

vities of internationally rec-

ognised freedom of speech and expression," Mr. Shat-

In talks with officials from

the ministries of public secur-

ity, health, family planning and justice, Mr. Shattuck

said he had "strongly pro-

tested" the heavy sentence

handed down last month to

nine dissidents, as well as the

systematic rounding up and

detention of activists prior to

raised the issues of Tibet,

access to prisoners, reports of

from executed criminals, and

a blacklist preventing over-

seas activists returning to

He gave no details of the

Chinese responses, although he said both sides had de-

scribed the meetings as "usc-

Mr. Shattuck said he bad

received no precise informa-

tion regarding the current situation of the 44-year-old

Wei, who was been held

without charge at an undis-

closed location since being

were incensed when Mr.

Wei, who was released on

parole in September 1993 af-

ter serving all but six months

of a 15-year sentence for counter-revolutionary activi-

ries, met with Mr. Shattuck in

February last year and called

on Washington to take a hard

that President Bill Clinton's

decision in June to delink

human rights from renewal of

China most-favoured-nation

(MFN) trade status, could be

blamed for the lack of human

of the entire year when these

issues were at play, the

events that were occurring in

the first half of the year were

similar to those that occurred

in the second half," he said.

secretary said some progress

had been made in the area of

legal reform, citing the new

state compensation law

allowing citizens to sue gov-

ernment officials.

At the same time, the

If you look at the course

rights progress.

Mr. Shattuck also denied

line over human rights.

The Chinese authorities

pieked up in April.

foreign visits.

China.

tuck told reporters.

"We have seen a number

religion.

"Over the last year, the

rooted disagreement.

human

rights

"If the BSA (Bosnian Serb Army) is not prepared to come to some sort of arrangement, then this puts the current peace process in jeopardy. This needs to be resolved in the short term," Col. Co-

"It's surprising because we had every indication from the BSA that they wanted the cessation of hostilities agreement to work. This process is very delicate, needs to maintain a momentum. The routes issue bas great symbolie

day Serh forces had threatened to fire on civilian traffie into Sarajevo in defiance of an accord signed hy their own army command to open the aid routes to the city. Bosnian Serb leaders denied any threats had been made.

cause they said the Muslimled Bosnian government army had not withdrawn from a demilitarised zone

TOKYO (R) — The leader of a Socialist splinter group

that threatens to undermine

Japan's ruling coalition de-

fended his movement Sunday

against a barrage of criticism of its political timing and

motives.
"It will be a kind of eutha-

nasia for the Socialist Party if

things continue as they are,"

Sadao Yamahana said on one

of three national television

talk shows on which be

appeared.
"I think Prime Minister

(Tomichi) Murayama shares the opinion that action must

be taken to ensure the party's

Mr. Yamabana, Mr.

Murayama's immediate pre-

decessor as Socialist chair-

man. has assembled 23 party

lawmakers dissatisfied with

the "unholy alliance" which

their party formed with for-

mer foe the conservative

Liberal Democratic Party last

To maximise the party's

chances of survival in future

elections, Mr. Yamahana's:

group calls for recasting the

Socialists as a centre-left

alternative to the two large

conservative parties that have

emerged after two years of

allies, who call themselves

the New Democratic League,

took to the airwaves Sunday,

just days before parliament is

due to begin, to serve notice

that they intend to form a

new party as soon as possible

— and to criticise the cau-

tious approach of the prime

minister and his mostly leftist

Mr. Murayama and his

group want to keep the 40-

year-old party intact while it

debates its future and pre-

political termoil.

backers.

The rebel leader

future," he said.

summer.

**Japan Socialist rebels** 

struggle over party future

The opening of the supply routes was a condition of a new year four-month ceasefire agreed by Bosnia's main warring factions but many obstacles have developed in follow-up talks on im-plementing the provisions of

The United Nations says the truce is basically holding, with the exception of the Bihac enclave in northwestern Bosnia, where renegade Serbs and Muslims have not signed the ceasefire.

bomb that smashed into a bridge in Bihac town Saturday killed five people, one more than earlier reported, and wounded four.

apparently fired in retaliation for a Bosnian army lightning assault out of the Bihac "safe area" hours before on the adjacent Klokot area despite the standing ceasefire between the war foes.

ibly in response to a Bosnian army assault on Klokot which is three kilometres from the edge of town and 1.2

pares for nationwide local

paying lip service to the re-

birth of the Socialist Party

but in reality they're quite

cosy with the status quo,"

said party rebel Hirotaka

governed since June in a

coalition with the LDP and

the small reformist group

Sakigake, have shed their tra-

ditional left-wing policies in

the interests of preserving the Murayama administration.

party centre have badly damaged the credibility of local party chapters, which must fight the April polls," said Yoshimi Mino, a lawmaker opposed to the rebels, Hardliners on the party left

have called for expelling the

rebels and denying them a share of the publicly-funded

subsidies which parties will

receive under the electoral

reform programme implemented last year.

The leftists, joined by the LDP, accuse Mr. Yamaha-

na's group of working with the opposition New Frontier

Party to topole the govern-

ment before or soon after

parliament convenes on Jan.

The opposition has deman-

ded that Mr. Murayama dis-

solve parliament and call

fresh elections, a step he has

refused to take and doesn't

register themselves as a new

parliamentary bloc, an in-

termediate step that falls

short of leaving the Socialists

and has triggered sharp pub-

lic criticism of Mr. Yamaha-

na's apparent lack of resolve.

The rebels will Monday

have to until mid-1997.

20 - a charge Mr. Yamaha

na denies.

"These struggles at the

The Socialists, who have

"Many in the party are

polls in April.

Akamat

kilometres outside the west-

successful, so the mortar may have been fired into the town in response."

at Tuzla Airport in northern terms of the ceasefire.

with leaders of Bosnia's rival

The envoys, representing Britain, France, Germany,

the progress in negotiations... nnfortunately it seems that no concrete progress was made," Miomir Zuzul, Croatia's U.N. ambassador, told reporters.

# S. Africa buries

 Tens of thousands of mourners led by President Nelson Mandela Sunday buried veteran Communist Joe Slovo, the leading white figure in South Africa's strug-

crowded into Orlando Stadinm in Soweto black township near Johannesburg to play their last respects to Slovo, who died on Jan. 6 after losing his battle with bone marrow cancer.

a close friend of Mr. Mandela and the most senior white in his government and a rare white hero to South Africa's

waged by the now-ruling African National Congress (ANC).

country filed past the open coffin of the chairman of the South African Communist Party, which was draped in the new South African flag. Mr. Mandela praised Mr. Slovo's role in South Africa's peaceful transition to demo-

"He knew when to compromise, yet he never com-promised his principles," Mr. Mandela said, "He was a militant, who knew how to plan, assess concrete solutions and emerge with rational solutions to problems."

Mr. Mandela said the

### notify the United Nations that conditions are ready for mander, named by both Mr. the handover from the U.S.led multinational force that went to Haiti in October to restore President Jean-

INDIAN OIL WELL ABLAZE: Firefighmetres of gas has been burning daily since the ters carry water pipes in an attempt to accident and U.S. firefighting firm Neil Adams extinguish the blaze near an oil well which has been called in to help quell the inferno

caught fire Sunday in the Southern Indian which may take 6 days to put out (AFP photo)

U.S. to hand over Haiti mission to U.N.

ited States will formally

Bertrand Aristide to power. U.N. spokesman Joe Sills said Dr. Ghali's report would be released Monday or Tuesday after which the Security Council may take up to a week to authorise the operation.

Diplomats said they expected the transfer to take about 60 days after the Council votes to draw up a U.N. force of about 6,000, nearly

Christopher stays in charge at State

Ghali and the Pentagon late last week, is U.S. Major General Joseph Kinzer. Mr. Brahimi, a former Algerian foreign minister, will be the civilian chief of the opera-Under congressional pressure, the Clinton administra-

The new U.N. force com-

tion wants the handover to take place as soon as possible but nervous U.N. officials. fearing a repeat of the chaos in Somalia after the bulk of U.S. troops pulled out, do not wish to rush the transition

### half of them expected to be

WASHINGTON (AFP) Defying pundits who said be was on his way out, Secretary of State Warren Christopher has remained in place amid a partial cabinet shakeup balfway through President Bill Clinton's term.

state of Andhra Pradesh. A million cubic

UNITED NATIONS (R) -

U.N. Secretary-General

Boutros Ghali Monday or

Tuesday is expected to set the

legal machinery in motion for the U.N. to take over the

American-led Haiti opera-tion by March 31, U.N. offi-

A report, prepared for him at the weekend by his special representative, Lakhdar Bra-

himi, is to certify that a

"stable and secure environ-

ment" now exists in Haiti, a

Security Council precondi-

Haiti, known as UNMIH.

tion for the U.N. mission in

. At the same time the Un-

cials and diplomats said.

gested the 69-year-old Christ-"I'm just doing my job day

forward."

The rail-thin Christopher has had a tough act to follow. succeeding the more media savvy Republicans James Baker and Lawrence Eagle-

But appearances are deceptive. Despite his bland speaking style and stiff post-ure, Mr. Christopher is a veteran diplomat with wide

As deputy secretary of state under President Jimmy Carter (1977-1981), be helped negotiate the release of U.S. bostages in Tehran, In his current position, he has list of crises from Bosnia to

He swims or jogs every morning, and endures a marathon travel schedule for diplomatic missions that incinde tough negotiations with the likes of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and others.

Still, the mild-mannered North Dakota native who seems to get lost in his shirt collars suffers from an image. problem. Even the guidance of Clinton aide and media guru David Gergen did little to help.

When a shirtsleeve-clad Clinton cajoled with U.S. troops in Kuwait last year, Mr. Christopher took off his jacket, but still appeared awkwardly uncomfortable in his stiff tie in the scorching 40-degrees centigrade (100-Fahrenheit) heat.

Jimmy Carter stole his thnuder by negotiating a ceasefire in Haiti and Bosnia, and deputy Robert Gallneci was in the spotlight in negotiating a deal to freeze North Korea's nuclear energy programme suspected of weapons development.

The only area which he

nally is the Middle East, but the crucial Israeli-Syrian discussions have been stalemated

Bnt Mr. Christopher seemed out of the spotlight even when Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzbak Rabin signed their historic accord in Washington.

One editorial cartoon published at the time of the Israel-PLO agreement showed Mr. Christopher on a barstool, saying to himself, "They wouldn't do it without me. naah..."

His critics describe him as a technocrat lacking vision and charisma. But with the Congress now dominated by Republicans, Mr. Christopher is an asset to the administration because of his long experi-ence and relationships with

The soft-spoken Christopher will have his hands full with the new Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, who has vowed to focus on foreign

But the two men have known each other and worked together for some 20 years, and few other Democrats bave the experience that Mr. Christopher has in this агела.

"I think that Senator Hehns and I will have a good personal relationship,"

Kozyrev in Geneva, but all

# plices.

JAKARTA (AFP) — Indonesia's birthrate has been almost halved since 1970, according to a Central Statis-tics Agency (BPS) survey cited by Antara News Agen-cy Friday. The 1994 survey, carried out between July and October and involving 35,510 respondents, showed that the birthrate had fallen from 5.6 per 1,000 population in the early 1970s to 2.9 two decades later, Antara News Agency reported. The BPS survey also found that the use of contraceptives had incressed to 55 per cent in 1994 compared to 50 per cent when the last survey was taken in 1991. Since the formation of the National Family Planning Board in 1970 Indonesia's voluntary national family programme has reached the far flung villages of the archipelago promoting the idea of a small, happy and prosperous family using the slogan "two children is enough." State Minister for Population
Affairs Haryono Suyono said the increasing age at which people got married was a contributing factor to the de-

ward told Reuters. "The routes to Sarajevo

The Serbs had promised to meaning."
U.N. officials said Saturallow the routes to open at 8

The Bosnian Serbs had re-

fused to open the routes benear Saraievo.

the truce.

Col. Coward said a mortar

He said the mortar was

"We believe this was poss-

ern edge of the safe area," he said.

"We think the assault was

Col. Coward said the U.N.'s regional headquarters Bosnia as well as other U.N. bases in the area remained blockaded by Bosnian forces protesting at the presence of a Serb liaison officer under

Envoys from the big power contact group, trying to revive peace talks to end the 33-month war, Saturday ended four days of meetings

Russia and the United States, briefed Croatian officials in Zagreb.
"We were informed about

# Joe Slovo JOHANNESBURG (AFP)

gle for racial equality.

At least 30,000 people

The 68-year-old Slovo was

black majority.

The former white govern-ment had vilified Slovo dur-

ing his years in exile as public enemy number one for his role in the armed struggle Mourners from all over the

Lithuania-born Slovo was

"irreplaceable" and that it was tracedy that South Africa had lost a revolutionary who exhibited "humanity, prag-matism and industriousness."

### had to cope with an endless Some analysts had sug-Cuba to North Korea.

opher had endured enough after two years of foreign policy crises; others said be wanted to make a graceful exit after diplomatic succes-ses in Haiti and North Korea.

in and day out, and I want to keep on doing that," he said in a recent television interview. "There's an agenda of issues that I want to carry

While Mr. Clinton has revamped the White House staff and has had to find replacements to head treasdefence, agr the Central Intelligence Agency over the last year, Mr. Christopher stuck it out at the State Department despite frequent rumours that he is on his way out.

burger.

### Christopher said. seems to be handling perso-Christopher aims to stabilise U.S.-Russia ties

WASHINGTON (Agencies)
— U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, his lease in his job extended by President Bill Clinton, leaves Monday on his first overseas trip of 1995 - a high-stakes effort to stabilise troubled ties with Russia

With Moscow's handling of Chechenya causing increasing alarm in Washington, U.S. officials say this almost certainly will be the first issue discussed when Mr. Christopher dines in Geneva Tuesday with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev. Beyond that, during talks

that will also take most of Wednesday, Mr. Christopher will engage Mr. Kozyrev on the matter that brought Mos-cow and Washington to confrontation last month — the expansion of NATO and the long-term security of Europe. Mr. Christopher's two pre-

decessor, James Baker and George Shultz, regularly held "ministerials" with their Russian counterparts - two or more day sessions involving a phalanx of officials on each side that examined a broad

Mr. Christopher's contacts with Mr. Kozyrev, while frequent, have tended to be shorter and more concentrated on specific topics.

cided to resume the ministerials, although it was unclear how often they might be

Beginning this week, he aims to establish an ongoing mechanism on an issue when they run into each other every month or so, but to bave a regularly scheduled consultative meeting where they cover the range of the relationship," one senior official said in an interview.

The goal is to "ensure you build on areas of agreement and manage areas of disagreement," in an era when there is an increasingly aggressive and nationalistic tone in Russian foreign policy, be said.

The two governments have to "implement a rule of no surprises, of not letting a surprise or a public disagreement snowball into broader disagreement, because the relationship is so important," the official added.

Mr. Christopher and Mr. Clinton identified ties with Russia as one of their top foreign policy priorities when they took office in 1993 and for a time this seemed a great But the clash last Decem-

ber, when Russia stunned the West by not signing a Partnership for Peace accord with NATO and by Mr. Yeltsin's harsh warning against alliance expansion, underscored ominous frictions that must be addressed. Moreover, Moseow's

assault on Chechenya, which caused heavy civilian casualcrat as well as to economic and political reform in Rus-

"All the good things are in jeopardy," including cooperative ties between Washington and Moscow. one Russian expert in the administration said.

Mr. Kozyrev is likely to argue for continued Western support despite the war in Chechenya when he meets Mr. Christopher. Russia lannched a di-

plomatic counterattack ahead of the two-day Kozyrev-Christopher talks that start Tuesday, charging that the West risks scuttling historic Russian reforms by criticising the war to crush Chechen

"We can not but notice an inadequate and hasty reaction from certain political leaders who call for freezing political and economic cooperation" because of the conflict, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Gregory Karasin Thursday.

President Yeltsin's chief economie policy advisor, Alexander Livshits, repeated the message Friday, saying sanctions against Russia would "bloomerang." Mr. Kozyrev is ready to

discuss Chechenya with Mr. Christopher, but only the month-long war's "eternal aspects," Mr. Karasin said. Russia has about \$15 billion of vital foreign loans and aid at stake and, for now, its diplomatic strategy is work-

Mr. Christopher told a U.S. news agency Friday that he would state the U.S. gov-ernment's objections to Mr. the same would urge Congress to approve a \$900 mil-

lion aid programme. Russian forces are guilty of "the indiscriminate killing of women and children (and) excessive use of force," Mr. Christopher said, but the aid package only "becomes more President Clinton has also

decried the vast air and ground assault on Chechenya, but been careful to point out that the tiny Caucasus republic is part of the Russian Federation. Russian officials say the Geneva talks are principally to focus on implementing agreements reached at the last Russian-U.S. presidential summit in September in Washingon, which covered nuclear security and trade

Russia's operation in

Chechenya has heightened

desire in Eastern Europe for the protection of NATO membership. One "understands better now the reasons why the Czech Republic aspires to alliance membership," said Czech President Vaclav Havel last week. Washington's plans to let former Soviet-dominated East European states join the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) will probably be a key topic, following Mr. Yeltsin's furious attack

on the plan in December. Mr. Christopher said in December that he would not back down on NATO enlargement, but that he wanted "to explain it very carefully to Russia (and) dis-pel any confusion."

### Plague of flying ants hits Peruvian Andes

LIMA (AFP) — A plague of flying ants has devoured pastures near the southeastern Andean city of Puno, and officials fear the insects could next attack crops, the state Environmental Health department said. The ants have also attacked children and livestock, leaving some badly bitten. Peasants have gathered in various townships to organise processions to counter what they believe is bad luck brought by the flying ants. The ants have been blamed for poor rains and low milk production by

### Russian police seize 40 kg of stoien diamonds

MOSCOW (R) - Police and . counter-intelligence investi-gators have seized more than 40 kilogrammes of diamonds and arrested a group of people allegedly involved in illeg-al diamond sales, Interfax News Agency said. It quoted the investigation department . of the Interior Ministry as 1 saying the estimated value of diamonds was 17 billion roubles (\$4.5 million). The agency said the arrests completed an operation launched last year after a series of diamond and precious metals thefts : from the Moscow-based scientific institute Ginalmazzoloto. Interfax quoted investi- . gators as saying some of the stolen diamonds had been smuggled to Bulgaria. It gave no further details. Officials could not be reached for ;

### Bank robber confesses in Taiwan

TAIPEI (R) — A Taiwanese man detained by police in a routine patrol has confessed to stealing some \$3.8 million from two local banks last year, police said. Lin Ching-Fa, 33, admitted he was the man who stole the money from two local banks last . .. May and December, a Taipei police official told state television. "I did the two cases all by myself," Mr. Lin told tele-vision. Mr. Lin said he only got away with \$800,000 be-cause he had to run off when his robbery was interrupted. Police recovered the money at his home. A police official told television he believed the man had other accom-

### Singapore to have cheaper, speedier **Family Court**

SINGAPORE (AFF) -Singaporeans will have a cheaper, speedier way of setthing domestic disputes when a Family Court officially opens in March, the Sunday Times reported here. They can file a case with only one dollar (67 U.S. cents) and will not need expensive: lawyers who could cost up to 3,000 dollars (\$2,000) a day to appear in a subordinate court. The court will deal with family disputes such as maintenance payments, adoption petitions, protection orders against spousal violence and child abuse. But divorce cases would still be heard in the High Court. The court was set up after complaints that lawyers' fees had soared beyond the reach of many.

\* \*----

ار کاریا ہے۔ انگلا انداز

. .

March Comme

### Indonesia's birthrate halved since 1970

clining birthrate

### Think-tank sees world "There was plenty of disagreement," Mr. Shattuck food shortage by 2030 said, adding that he also WASHINGTON (R) — The transplant organs being taken

swelling human population is on course to surpass the world's ability to provide food within a few decades or sooner, a Washington-based

research group has said. The impending shift would lead to a future so different from the recent past that it is difficult to even imagine, the Worldwatch Institute said in its state of the world report. "The world food economy is in danger of being con-

verted from a buyers market to a sellers market," said Worldwatch President Lester Brown. Mr. Brown, who sees the change "certainly before said there are already

ample signs.
"The wake up call will come from China, in the form of massive imports of grain, Mr. Brown said in an interview with Reuters before the report was released.

sharply higher quantities of wheat, bought maize for the first time in years and late in the year banned its own exports. Rising food prices will come as a big shock to the people of the United States.

In 1994, China imported

who for years have been used to a cheap and plentiful food supply, he said. Americans would have to pay more because they will be competing to buy U.S.grown food with hungry consumers in other countries making increasing demands

on the world's largest food exporter. Until now, the world has produced enough food to feed its population with hunger in Third World countries being a problem of distribu-tion," Mr. Brown said.

Already, world seafood prices are rising, and fish catches are sharply down from the Black Sea to the Chesapeake Bay in the eastern United States, Worldwatch said.

Collapsing fisheries. shrinking forests, thinning soils, falling water levels, Third World unemployment and economic decline are all signs of the future, the report

"Unless security is redefined (as food security) our children will face an economically impoverished and politically volatile future — a future so different from the recent past that we cannot easily imagine what it will be like." Worldwatch said.

switch countries from stability to instability almost overnight, the group said.. Mr. Brown said last year's U.N. Conference on Population and Development in Cairo was the boldest step so far to address the problem.

Food shortages could

to \$17 billion per year by "Despite public support for fat-reaching changes, the international response to the threat of ecological collapse and social disintegration is still seriously inadequate, said Hilary French, one of the report's authors.

We are winning a few

battles, but we are losing the

war," she said.

But world leaders have still agenda. to implement the plan to more than triple spending on family planning programmes

But the experience of last December — when Russia backed out of a military cooperation programme with NATO and President Boris Yeltsin warned alliance expansion plans could bring a 'cold peace" with the West - bas made him rethink this

ties, has become a major threat to Mr. Yeltsin's stand-Mr. Christopher has deing, and future, as a demoY. JANUARY 16, 18

### ussian police eize 40 kg of olen diamond

OSCOW (R) - Police; OSCOW (K) — Police at uncer-intelligence into tors have seized more to kilogrammes of diametric diarrested a group of personal sales to the torse of the sales to diamond sales, later diamond sales, later ws Agency said It que investigation department the Interior Manage ing the estimated value monds was 17 billion to 5 (S- 5 million). The ac said the arrests completed in the control of the co ar after a series of diame a practious metals the m the Moscow-based s effe institute Ginalmer o. Interfax quoted inte ors as saving some of en diamonds had b uggled to Bulgaria he further details, Office aid not be reached b

### ink robber infesses in Wan

IPEI . RI - A Tainage

a detained by police is nne patro! has contess = 500 local bank & r. Dence said. Lm Che. 33. admined he wart. a who stole the me The peak banks the ) and December ale de official told state p on. Late the two cas, Tives f. Mr. Lin toldes on Mr. Lin said beid 24.0) 47th \$800.09\$ se he had to run of the rantan, was interest. co receivered the most is horns Apoliceofic

### agapore to have eaper, speedig mily Court

CAPORE (AFF)

teroteans will have;

teletision he below

man nai other mal

demostre disputes who arming Court official is in March, the Suig en reported here. It file a case with only 🚎 😽 U.S. cents at need expense عَم العَمَّ وَلَكُونَ وَ مَا مِنْ مِنْ مِنْ الْعِنْ وَ مِنْ الْمِنْ وَمِنْ الْمِنْ وَمِنْ الْمِنْ وَمِنْ الْمُ . S.C. (000) a days var in a subording. The purt will the farming disputes such payment. (27,523) tien petitions, pros. against spor the many would sall ! a - the High Coun R

### onesia's hrate halved ce 1970

ARTA (AFP) T

traved since 1976

cing to a Central State

tan set ur after af

3 32 Buyers fees

the read file

Agency (BPS) sure Vers Age ner and involving in the name of the same conviction is the second secon Aniara Nat exorted. The Br assa found that the aceptives had put at 10 55 per cent in 10 55 per cent in 10 55 per cent in 10 50 per

TOURS OF BUT OF THE BEST OF TH

אותותונים

last survey the 1991 of the 1991. Nation Planning Beard indonesia wolong armily programs the archiecks the idea of the to the Youth Day mass. ine slogar see n ion popularis

S Harveno Suyono si leader of the world's some



### Italy's Dini opts for slimline team of technocrats

ROME (AFP) - Lamberto his administration collapsed. Dini, set to take over as A 63-year-old financial ex-Italy's new prime minister, pert and former head of the held informal talks with non-Italian Ceotral Bank, Mr. party technocrats in his Dini said following his Treasury Ministry office Sunappointment that he would day in a bid to put in place a seek to form a cabinet made new government by the mid-dle of the week. up of "people iodepeodent of political parties" in order to Asked by President Oscar defuse the political atmos-Lnigi Scalfaro to form Italy's phere" and concentrate on

54th postwar government. resolving Italy's cbronic financial difficulties. Mr. Dini has opted for a slimline team of ministers Analysts believed Mr. Dini selected for their expertise was likely to retain the treasrather than party affiliation. the buisness daily Il Sole 24 ury portfolio and create a "super-mioistry" combining the budget and finance de-The number of portfolios partments that would set abcould well be reduced from out reduciog Italy's buge around 30 in the administrapublic debt, currently equivation formed by Silvio Berluslent to 120 per cent of gross

domestic product. There was doubt that be would succeed io forming his team in the time be has set himself.

The only political personalities be has met since embarking on consultations, under-secretary of state in the prime minister's office Gianni Lettra and the minister for relations with parliament Giuliano Ferrara, are members of Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia party, suggesting a degree of continuity between the incoming and out-

going administrations. Mr. Dini, a conservative with views relatively close to those of Forza Italia, has given no indication of the course his consultations have

The Nortbern League. whose defection from the ruling coalinon last month was instrumental in Mr. Berlusconi's fall from power, immediately declared its opposition to the prospect of Mr. Letta retaining his post in the new government.

"In a government of technocrats above the parties, Letta would obviously be there to see to the carrying out of Berlusconi policies, its spokesman, Luigi Rossi,

Mr. Berlusconi was maintaining his opposition to Mr. Scalfaro's decision to appoint a oew prime minister rather than call new elections, and oo Saturday sent a video cassette to Italy's television stations - of which he owns tbree - to set out the achievements of his seven months in office

"Only a rapid return to the polls will restore life to a coalition government capable of ensuring stability," be 10ld a press conference Friday after moving finally out of the prime minister's office at the Chiagi Palace.

He said he planned in the coming days to form a "broad alliance of moderate, freemarket, Catbolic, federal and social and European conservarive forces.

The secretary of the (formerly Christian Democrat) Popular Party, Rocco Buttiglione, appeared to hold out the prospect of an alliance with Mr. Berlusconi in an interview in the daily Corriere Della Sera Sunday in which he suggested the formation of a moderate centre grouping that could include Forza Italia.

Mr. Buttiglione, who had formed part of the parliamentary opposition to Berlusconi, said he had written to the media magnate congratulaiing him on stepping down and proposing the creation of a "new moderate pole" in Ita-

# Army patrol ends as N. Irish peace holds

BELFAST (R) - Northern Ireland's predominantly Protestant police force Sunday...
patrolled Belfast's Roman Catholic Republican stron-sister Constabulary (RUC) gholds without British military protection for the first time in 25 years.

Ore reported.

newspaper said.

coni less than a year ago to 20

or fewer onder Mr. Dini, the

in the outgoing government,

began ioformal talks with

prospective ministers Satur-

day and was said to be aiming

to announce his team to Mr.

Scalfaro Tuesday or Wednes-

Mr. Berlusconi resigned

last month after the par-

hameotary coalitioo backing

Mr. Dini, treasury minister

Signalliog growing peace after a generation of guerrilla war, six-man police teams paced narrow streets and housing estates, once arenas for running battles and bomb and bullet attacks.

Discarding flak jackets and heavy weapons, they wore holstered pistols and carried clipboards as they made "bouse calls" about car thefts and burglaries.

Ceasefires five months ago by Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas and later by their pro-British Protestant foes created a new peace climate after bloody armed struggles in the British province claimed more than 3,000 lives during a quarter of century of strife. Last Thursday, Royal Uls-

out during the day without the customary back-up from British troops who have been a controversial part of daily life in Catholic areas where support is high for an end to Loodoo rule.

The RUC is anxious to return to "normal policing" and Catholics are glad about the partial withdrawal of British troops. They will still guard night police patrols. Bot many Catholics say

they will continue to regard the 92 per cent Protestant police force as unacceptable. Later in Belfast Republicans were planning to demonstrate outside a police

security base demanding "de-

militarisation" of the Northern Ireland conflict, a code word for troop and police withdrawal from Catholic districts.

At the beight of the violence, wheo there were frequent confrontations between security forces and people in pro-Irish neighbourhoods, the RUC and the British army were often accused of harassmeot and heavy-handedness.

The IRA, which waged a war to end British rule, killed almost 300 RUC officers in its campaign. Its Protestant loyalist foes targeted random Catholics and alleged Repub-

Senior RUC officers believe many people in Republican areas will be glad to see them return to normal duties. In both Protestaot and Catholics areas IRA and

loyalist "punishment squads" frequently set upon "wrongdoers", breaking their limbs with baseball bats or cement blocks.

Before leaving for their first non-military patrols, the police were warned to "he careful out there" by their sergeants and inspectors. As low cloud over Divis

Mountain poured rain down on the patrol and early morning mass-goers, some elderly Catholics gave the passing police a friendly "good morn-

Phnom Peoh said it could not Bot antagonism among give out their names because many Catholics runs deep. of U.S. privacy laws. Most want Northern Ireland "The circumstances of the reunited with the Republic of incident are unclear at this Ireland from which it was time, but the Cambodian divided by partition 70 years government bas given every ago, and traditionally regard assurance it will move quickly the RUC as an oppressive to thoroughly investigate and force and the armed wing of bring the crimioals to justhe province's Protestant U.S. diplomat Dave political cootrollers. Miller told AFP.

# Arson suspected in deadly Australia blaze

SYDNEY (R) — An apartment fire which killed eight people in a Sydney suburb early Sunday was being treated as suspicious, Australian Police said.

The blaze completely destroyed a third-floor apartment in the south-western suburb of Liverpool in what a fireman at the scene described as one of the bottest blazes be had ever battled.

Paul wrapped up a trium-

Police said a pregnant. woman and a number of chil-dren were believed to be among the victims, thought to be members of a family attending a reunion. Bot they had not yet positively identi-fied the badly burnt bodies. Police said the blaze was

being treated as suspicious until a cause was established. Neighbours of the family told reporters they bad little doubt the blaze was the result of arson. One said he called the fire brigade and reached the scene moments later.

"What amazed me most was that there wasn't a scream or a call for help. ·There wasn't a single sound, he said.

"It looked to me like someone soaked the house (with fuel) and soaked the staircase

then set fire to it. The staircase was alight from the bottom up." Another neighbour told re-

porters: "It didn't look like a house fire to me. It looked like a chemical fire." The fire death toll was the worst in Australia since 12

resident of a hostel for the mentally retarded died in a blaze at the town of Dungog north of Sydney in 1991.

### Pope ends Philippine visit with biggest-ever crowd MANILA (R) - Pope Joho

phant visit to the Philippines Sunday by drawing the big-gest crowd of bis 17-year reign and rejuvenating a papacy some people feared was going into decline. Vaticao officials said it was people.

the biggest turnout yet for the Pope, beating even the welcome he received when he returned to his native Poland for the first time as Pontiff in 1979.

After a smaller than expected crowd at his first big public mass Saturday, Sunday's climax of World Youth Day was a stunning explosion of Filipino Cathobic faith.

Rizal Park in the middle of Manila was jammed to bursting and all the roads to the apostolic nunciature were so crammed with people hoping for a glimpse of the Pope he bad to abandoo plans to drive

People perched atop vehicles, traffic ligghts and anywhere offering a vantage point to catch a glimpse of 900 million Roman Catholics

were disappointed. Instead be was flown the three kilometres by belicopter to emerge on a high stage to the adulation of foreign and Filipino youth delegates along with millions of local

The 74-year-old Pope. forced to cancel foreign tours to the United States and Belgium last year after undergoing bone replacement surgery, was clearly delighted with his reception on the first stage of his four-nation tour. He leaves Monday for

Papua New Guinea, before

going on to Australia and Sri lanka. "He is delighted," said chief Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls who estimated Sunday's crowd at four million. "It is his first trip in such a long time and he has found this kind of

boost for him." The Pope even turned the silver topped black cane he now uses to help walk into a stage prop during the visit,

reception. This was clearly a

waving it enthusiatically at the crowds. He entertained hundreds

of thoosands of people at a youth vigil Saturday night by twirling it like Charlie Cha-Although the Pope looked

very tired and lost in thought as he arrived for a Sunday evening meeting with Asian bishops, aides bis Manila reception was just what he needed to belp get through the loss of bis former active lifestyle.

"That kind of change is difficult psychologically and this trip bas helped him come to peace with himself about this new phase in his life," the aide added. "It has recharged his batteries."

Bebind the adulation, however, there were serious messages for the people of the Philippines, Asia's only Catholic majority nation, and for the region's church bieracby.

There was also a diplomatic success in getting a delegation from China's breakaway Catholic Church to join him in prayer for the first time at the Youth Day mass.

The mass was the clearest indication yet that China's state-sponsored church, which obeys the Chinese government instead of the Pope, was inching closer to Rome.

The Pontiff stepped into a conflict between the Philippine Church and the government of President Fidel Ramos over state promotion of birth cootrol by bluntly telling his bishops they must resist all encroachments on his conservative doctrine.

"Because the church treasures the divine gifts of buman life and its inalienable dignity, she cannot but strenuously oppose all measures which are in any way directed at promotiog abortion, sterilisation and also contraception," he told a private meet-

ing of Philippine bishops. Despite professing respect for the other great religions of Asia, he also left the leaders of his church in no doubt their job is to go out spread their faith throughout the re-

### Yeltsin's survival as leader MOSCOW (Agencies) -Russian President Boris Yelttackling the power structures of the military, in which refusal to carry out orders has

sin has lost much of bis remaining popularity over the bloody intervention in Chechenya, which threatens factor. his very survival as head of state, diplomats here said. After the fall of Grozny, he

will urgently have to revamp existing power structures if he wants to hold on to the presidency. Moscow's handling of the crisis "has shown up the absence of a coordinating centre structure would be the chief of staff, explained Sergei Satarov, Mr. Yeltsin's politicfor decision-making. The power structures are vague

Around the head of state Pavel Grachev. several decision-making bodies gravitate, relatively independent of each other and there is no established hierarchy: These include the ministries of the interior and well-informed Western defence, the countersource said. espionage service and Secur-Meanwhile the public proity Council and a few autonomous personalities like Ale-

Preisdential Guard. As a result orders that are given are not carried out and the declaration of officials contradict one another.

xander Korjakov, head of the

and not cohesive," a Western

diplomat commented.

The Russian president has recognised the danger. "The Kremlin is trying to redefine its political strategy and is looking into ways of reforming power structures," one

diplomat said. In the past few days, Mr. Yeltsin's political advisors who had not bad access to him since the outbreak of the Chechenya crisis on Dec. 11 - have won back the ear of the president and are speaking once more in his name.

American

guide killed

in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH (AFP) -

An American woman tourist

and her Cambodian tour

guide were killed Sunday

when their vehicle came

under gunfire in Cambodia's

northwest, the information

The woman's husband,

also American, was injured

when the party were shot at

20 kilometres north of the

provincial town of Siem Reap

oo the road to Banteay Srei

Temple, Leng Mouly told

The minister said he had

been evacuated to Phnom

Penh for medical care and his

condition was described as

stable," the minister said,

adding that the couple were

The U.S. embassy in

Government officials said

they did not know whether

the attackers were Khmer

Rouge guerrillas, who con-

trol large pockets of the

But a senior military offi-

cial in northwestern Siem

Reap provioce told AFP by

phone initial investigations

suggested the attack was a

"The investigation is still

going on, but I don't think it

was the Khmer Rouge be-

cause there are no Khmer

Rouge in this area," said the

official on condition of

12th century Angkor Wat Temple complex, Cambo-

dia's main tourist attraction.

But Khmer Rouge violence

and the killing of several

Western tourists last year, as

well as rural banditry, has

Automatic weapons are

easy to buy in Cambodia and

banditry is rife in many rural

areas, often involving upaid.

undisciplined but well-armed

"I think the incident is an

internal problem, possibly it

.... of the security

forces in the area in a hold-up

or extortion that went

wrong," the senior military

official from Siem Reap said.

Government officials in

Phnom Penh were trying to

play down the severity of the

incident for the sake of the

coontry's already troubled

Meanwhile Cambodian

Co-Premier Prince Norodom

Ranariddh arrived here Sun-

day for top-level talks aimed

cluding border disputes ano

tourist industry.

immigration.

soldiers and policemen.

deterred tourists.

Siem Reap is home to the

case of banditry.

anonymity.

country, or rural bandits.

minister said.

tourists.

been a major destabilising

Chechenya crisis threatens

Hence the idea launched last week of putting the chief of staff under the direct authority of the president. The Defence Ministry, remodelled on U.S. lines, would no longer have responsiblity for administering the armed forces and the command

discreet way of sidelining the bardline Defence Minister The Kremlin envisages "a complex movement of per-sonnel to put back order into the armed forces after a long period of open debate," a

al advisor. It would be a

secutor's department met Saturday to consider what to do about offices who have refused to carry out the orders of the military high command, the Interfax News Agency reported, quoting the spokesman for the president's office, Sergei

Nosovets. A restructuring of the high command in Moscow is not the only problem facing the Russian president. The situation oo the ground in Chechenya is virtually at an impasse: if he stays be could get bogged down, if he pulls out he could be ousted.

"The battle for Grozny will not be over when the bunker of the presidential palace has been taken. The Russian flag

In addition, the Kremlin is floating over the building will not be a sign of capitulation and a return to constitutional order in Chechenva. Even the death of (Chechen selfstyled President) Dzhokhar Dudayev will not bring the republic to its knees," Dmitri Ukhlin, the weekly Moscow

News' political commentator

said Friday. After the fall of the secessionist republic's capital, "Russian forces will have to stay in Chechenya." Their pull-out would be an admission of weakness, the Caucasian part of Russia would split up into pieces and Boris Yeltsin would immediately be toppled, Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Shakhrai predicted.

But Mr. Yeltsin could still survive as no political figure of any stature has risen up to replace him and there is nobody today to play the role he played himself in August

The Chechenya conflict has thrown a spotlight on the impotence of the new Russian parliament to influence Kremlin policy in times of crisis.

But deputies are tentatively stirring to try to claw back some powers from President Yeltsin.

The question is: How can this be done without provoking a major showdown with the Kremlin leader who dissolved the previous parliament with army tanks?

Lacking both the spirit and the legal authority to put a brake on Mr. Yeltsin, parliamentary deputies in both houses have been helpless to stop the bloody advance of the Russian troops on GrozBut groups at both ends of the political spectrum appear now to feel that the constitution should be amended to redress an imbalance in the powers of the legislarive and

executive branches. "Yes, we feel helpless. The Duma has demonstrated its impotence," Viktor Sheinis, a prominent liberal deputy from the reformist Yabloko

faction, told Reuters. "We need to amend the constitution to enable the Duma (lower house) to speak and to make its voice heard." Gennady Zyuganov, head of the strong Communist faction and party, echoed the views of his political oppo-

"During the Chechen crisis it has become especially clear that the Duma has no rights. that it is only a small barrier on the path of the president," he told Reuters.

'We will end up with dictatorship, instead of democracy, if we do not amend the constitution.

The only faction which backs the Kremlin's handling of the Chechen crisis is that of ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky — a factor which underlines Mr. Yeltsin's

isolation. The new Russian constitution adopted on Dec. 12, 1993, the same day the Duma was elected, gave the president expanded powers at the expense of the legislature.

The shift, Mr. Yeltsin argued at the time, was needed to prevent a power struggle between the president and the parliament which could hinder democratic reforms.

### 54 rescued after boat sinks in India

CALCUTTA (R) - Indian authorities said 54 people bad been rescued and oo bodies found Sunday when a boat carrying Hindu pilgrims at the mouth of the Ganges River capsized.

Government officials at Sagar Island south of Calcutta told Reoters by telephooe that crew had said between 50 and 60 people boarded the launch, which tipped over at about 10:30 a.m. (0500 GMT).

Rescue operations were

continuing, and it was still not clear whether anyone had drowned.

Earlier, United News of India (UNI) reported that dozens of pilgrims were feared drowned.

Exactly one year earlier

UNI said the boat was carrying about 100 passengers who had come to Sagar L. land to bathe in the holy river in a ritual which Hindus believe wasbes away their sins.

Officials told UNI about 33 pilgrims had been rescued.

more than 60 people drowned when two pilgrim boats collided in the Bay of Bengal and one was torn in

balf. A Hindu festival during which tens of millions of peopie "ill take sacred baths ... og the Gaoges begao Saturday.

Overcrowding is a perennial problem during the festival when there is a huge demand for places on boats which shuttle pilgrims to bathing spots.



A woman digs out a storm drain in front of her beachfront home in Malibu in preparation for renewed rain storms expected to hit Califor-

nia. Record rains have caused major damage due to flooding and mudslides (AFP photo)

### Weekend fires in U.S. claim 17 lives

BURBANK, Illinois (AFP) Six children and their 62year-old father died Saturday when fire raced through their split-level home in suburban Chicago, authorides said. Two other fires in the Mid-

west left eight other children and two other adults dead. In Burbank, the seven victims were pulled from the house alive but succumbed later to smoke inhalation, said fire officials. The children ranged in age from three to

A woman who was nine

months pregnant escaped and

called for help. Another

woman survived after being pulled out by neighbours. "All we know is it started in the front room, and om the neighbours — there was a big explosion." said Fire Chief Martin Kreil. "In was probably the windows

blowing out." In Moorhead, Minnesota, a woman and six children aged two to 10 died in a fire in their three-bedroom apartment. Fire officials said they bad moved to the apariment after a blaze at their bome in another part of town.

In Columbus, Ohio, three family members, including two children, perished in an early morning blaze. Fire officials said four other children escaped, including one who jumped from a secondfloor window.

Meanwhile more rain fell on parts of flood-soaked California Saturday, but forecasters said the worst was over - at least for now.

Amid the cleanup, residents queued up for tetanus shots and free food in Guerneville, north of San Francisco, while the National Guard sent patrols in motorboats along overflowing rivers.

Flooding over the last week has caused at least 11 deaths and \$300 million in property damage in the most populous U.S. state.

President Bill Clinton, who declared 34 of the state's 58 countries disaster areas, said the government was doing everything possible to pro-vide relief.

"I pledge to you that the American people will stand by you in this time of crisis as they have in the past," Mr. Clinton said.

Flood and mudslide warnings were lifted in northern California, except along the Russia River. But residents in many areas were advised to boil drinking water because of possible contamina-

In the southern part of the state, officials closed Newport Bay Friday after discovering a sewage leak that may have spilled as much as eight million litres (two million gallons) of raw sewage. Roads remained closed in many areas of the state.

vice said the unusual pattern of wet weather could continue through the next week, possibly with some beavy downfalls. "It is possible, as the week progresses that we could get

The National Weather Ser-

another system that could produce more flooding," said Weather Service hydrologist Tracy Cox. Venture County lost some \$22.7 million worth of pro-

duce and Orange County lost between 50 and 80 per cent of its strawberry crop, according to the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

### **Jordan Times**

Chairman of the Board of Directors: MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General: MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chiefe GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices: Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan. Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4 Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

### Message from Morocco

ON THE EVE of the meeting of the Jerusalem Committee, scheduled to meet in Morocco today, the Arab World appeared to be as divided and weak as ever but for the first time in a decade the Arabs seem to be more aware of their problems. While the peace process progresses on some fronts its seems to be stumbling on others. In Algeria, the political parties have at last met, in Rome, and issued a blueprint for a possible national reconciliation. Tension is mounting on the Saudi-Yemeni border. The Iraqi people, under the regime of U.N. sanctions, appear to be destined for at least few more months of hardship.

While Jerusalem, Mecca, Medina, the symbols of Islam and past Arab glory, are supposed to unite the Muslim umma they so far have been points of contention. On the fate of Jerusalem, which is so far being determined only by Israel through surrounding the city with even more settlements, today's meeting in Rabat can achieve a great deal if it could come up with a unified position. Only such a stand can, in fact, help Jordan, the Palestinians and the rest of Arabs and Muslims restore their rights in the Holy City and free it from the yoke of Israeli

Not only that. A unified position on such a highly sensitive issue would also strengthen the stand of all Arab parties in all their negotiations with the Israelis, including over refugees, regional security and mass-destruction weapons.

No Arab state today denies Israel's security concerns. But whether it is the so-called "Islamic terrorism" or Iran's alleged intention to become a nuclear country, that is perceived as the threat to stability in the Middle East the real danger to peace remains, Israel's continned insistence on keeping Jerusalem as its "eternal capital," as well as its refusal to discuss nuclear disarmament, and Yitzhak Rabin's resort from time to time to remind us of Israel's readiness and capability to go to war. If the Israelis are genuinely interested in comprehensive peace then Israel has to warm up and understand Arab fears. Israel, by now, should have got the message that has been coming from Egypt in the past few weeks. If it did not, then the conferees in Morocco, led by King Hassan, should send even a stronger signal, marked, above all, by a unified stand.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Dustour praised the government for embarking on measures to mend Jordan's fences with other Arab states, stressing the importance of bolstering Jordanian-Arab relations in view of the current developments in the peace process. Strained relations among Arab countries over the past four years have benefited the enemies of this nation, especially in the wake of the Gulf crisis, said Saleh Al Qallab. Jordan, which adopts a moderate policy in its dealings with the Arab World, is now taking steps to restore solidarity with the Arab World, and is giving the Arab states clear signs about its drive to achieve that objective, said Qallab. Referring to the Saudi Arabian-Syrian-Egyptian summit last month, the writer said Jordan felt that it was directed against Jordan and so it sent the foreign minister to Cairo to present Jordan's position on various issues in the Arab World and to find out about the chances that still exist for mending fences with Egypt first. He said that Jordan is in need of support from its Arab sister states and it is hoped that the government would open dialogues with other Arab countries as well.

A WRITER in Al Ra'i drew attention to the plight of the local cattle and livestock farmers who, he said, continue to pay high prices for imported animal feed but cannot raise the price of milk which they sell to the dairy firms. Tarea Masarweh said that the government has recently bowed to demands by the dairy firms and raised the prices of their products because these firms hold a great influence over government decisions. Advocating the cause of the local farmers, the writer said that since 1990 the farmers have been paying increasing prices for fodder imported by the Ministry of Supply which responded favourably to the dairy firms' demands and disregarded the farmers' request for raising the price of locally produced milk. The writer said that the government should not ally itself with the dairy firms against the interests of the farmers and should not remain hostage to the consumers' interests alone, without being fair to all parties io the equation.

### Washington Watch

# The 1996 race for the White House has already begun

THE 1996 election for the White House has already begun. During the past few weeks leading Republicans have officially announced the formation of committees to

explore the feasibility of their presidential aspirations.

The most significant factors that have led to this early start to the presidential campaigns are the Republicans euphoria over their national victory in November of last year and the fact that they continue to see the sitting Democratic president, Bill Clinton, as politically vulner-

Yet despite negative polls, it is far too early to call Mr. Clinton a one-term president or to predict an easy Republican victory. A realistic assessment of U.S. politics makes it clear that the conditions are quite volatile; and such an assessment must begin with the situation facing the

The November elections solidified a pattern that has been evolving in American politics over the last 30 years: a movement of white (especially southern whites) male voters away from the Democratic party and a deep voter alienation from and anger at government. In presidential elections, this trend has led polisters to observe that the Republicans had an "electoral lock" on the southern states, and the most recent election saw the phenomenon move

down into the grass roots at the congressional level.

Compounding the president's problems as a Democrat are a number of issues that have eroded public confidence in his personal leadership. His personal waffling on issues; his unique personal problems (which will continue to be played out in the courts, in congressional hearings and in the press during the next two years); the extraordinary and, at times, embarrassing and insulting hostility of popular television comedians, popular right-wing talk show hosts, and leading commentators in the mainstream press — all have contributed to making the presidential tenure of Bill Clinton a difficult one. down into the grass roots at the congressional level.

Roughly 40 per cent of the Americans still support the prresident (about as many as those who voted for him), but the rest have attitudes, described by one leading analyst as ranging from "disappointed and frustrated to bostility and contempt." There is a striking lack of civility in our political discourse: Nixon and Carter and Bush have been victims of

it. Now Clinton is, too. Additionally, the president faces deep divisions within his own party. As he moves towards, the centre of American political spectrum on one issue, the liberal left American pointical spectrum on one issue, the interal left publicly challenges him for abandoning the "traditional base of Democratic party." And as he moves again towards that base on other issues, the more conservative members of the party attack him by calling him a "minority, special-interest politician." These attacks, not to mention countless attacks from Republican sources over the past two years, have stuck in the minds of voters, reinforcing the

image of a "waffiing" president.

Yet a recent poll showed the president's popularity higher than it's been since the 1994 election, higher than that of Congress (the president had a 47 per cent approval rating to 31 per cent for Congress). Mr. Clinton's positive rating was also found to be higher than that of the leading Republicans, Bob Dole and Newt Gingrich. But the same poli found reported that almost two-thirds of all Americans predicted that Mr. Clinton will lose when he runs for

reelection in 1996. It is this high negative response that has contributed to six Republicans announcing the presidential exploratory committees this month. But the road to '96 will be a bumpy one for the Republicans as well.

The Republicans who have tossed their hats into the ring so far are: Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas; Texas Senator Phil Gramm; Senator: Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania; former treasury secretary and former Tennessee governor Lamar Alexander; CNN talk show host Pat Buchanan; and Alan Keyes of Maryland who was an appointee in the Reagan State Department. To those names

may soon be added those of former vice president Dan Quayle and former secretary of housing Jack Kemp. There may yet be more (at least four other Republicans have expressed some interest in a '96 race), but the difficulties facing Republicans are clearly manifest in this group of

eight potential candidates.

While the Republicans in Congress are unified on a few basic themes (downsizing government, reforming Congress and fiscal conservatism), there is no such unity in the national party. Winning congressional elections district by district is one thing; but assembling a national majority behind one candidate is something also again.

There are deep divisions among the leaders themselves and within the broader Republican constituency. Mr. Dole and Mr. Gramm have been barely able to contain their hostility towards one another. Mr. Dole, as Senate Majority Leader, blocked Mr. Gramm's move to a position on a key Senate committee; and Mr. Gramm shot back by challenging the Majority Leader's conservative credentials.

Mr. Gramm and Mr. Doke are not the only two potential

candidates sniping at one another. As Mr. Gramm and Mr. Alexander have moved forward to build strong campaign staffs, assembling a who's who of conservative political operatives from around the country, Marilyn Quayle, the wife of and leading political advisor to the former vice president (who has been filling in for him at speaking engagements while he recuperates from recent surgery) publicly derided both by implying that they couldn't "buy the election with big-name staffers."

Yet there is more to the friction in the Republican party than personal rivalries. Abortion, the issue that most divided the party in 1992 will continue to play a large role in 1996. Mr. Specter and Mr. Kemp are challenging the party to be "inclusive" — a code word for not allowing socially divisive issues (including abortion, racial equality programmes, homosexnal rights and immigration) to stand in the way to the Republican party's effort to become a national majority. Meanwhile, Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Keyes and Mr. Quayle will base their efforts primarily on these social issues, insisting that the party not fall prey to "social liberalism."

Mr. Kemp recently learned how divisive national Repub-lican politics can be. Before the November 1994 elections Mr. Kemp travelled to California (his native state) to urge Republicans not to support an anti-immigration resolution that was on the state ballot. In his speech to the California Republicans, he warned that if they passed the controver-sial resolution (Propositison 187)," Republicans could be blamed for the anti-immigrant sentiment in America." He went oo to caution that the "Republican party has no chance of being a majority party without being the party of immigrants - a party that is inclusionary and not exclusionary." But Proposition 187 passed that November, and when Mr. Kemp returned to the state to address another Republican group he was hissed and booed by the audience because of his opposition to the resolution.

Given this personal animosity and division over issues, it remains difficult to see how the Republicans will choose a candidate who can unify the party in 1996 and on what basis that unity will be forged. It was an easy thing to be anti-Clinton, anti-Democrat and anti-Washington in 1994, but the Republicans now control Congress and their challenger to Mr. Clinton must stand for something

positive in 1996. Added to the problems facing both Democrats and Republicans is the growing national movement in support of third-party candidates. H. Ross Perot, while unable to build a real institutional presence on the national scene (his United We Stand America party is at best a personal vehicle for Mr. Perot), nevertheless remains a viable national troublemaker because of his willingness to spend millions of dollars to promote himself and to prey off the national malaise. Mr. Perot will oot only be a factor in 1996, but others may decide to run once again for

Reverend Jesse Jackson of the National Rainbow Coalition has been speculating about the probability of a third-party run for the presidency. He has organised his supporters in New Hampshire and Iowa in case he decides to challenge President Clinton in the Democratic primaries, but many of his supporters are urging him to leave the Democratic party's and forge an independent movement. In the past, Rev. Jackson has mobilised African-American and liberal voters, winning as much as 25 per cent of the Democratic vote. Whether he can raise the funds to mount an effectively widespread oational campaign remains to be seen — but if he does he could peel off as many Democratic. votes as Mr. Perot would peel off Republican votes and

make the election a truly confusing picture.

There are also other "third" (or fourth or fifth) party efforts being discussed. One of the most intriguing possibilities involves the former chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, Colin Powell. What is interesting about Mr. Powell is not only that there is a national "draft Powell" effort underway that now boasts of an organisation in 33 states or tinderway that now boasts of an organisation in 33 states of that his candidacy is being touted former senator and presidential candidate Paul Tsongas, but that Mr. Powell himself is such an enigma. Polls show that Mr. Powell could easily defeat President Clinton in a two-way to three-way race (he is the only candidate who would easily defeat Clinton). Polls also show extremely high popularity for the former general, among all segments of the population liberal and conservative, rich and poor. But what is most disturbing is that voters polled also display total ignorance

of the issue stances or policy orientation of the man.
It appears that voters know who they don't like — that is, any politician who they know (or who they have formed a picture of through media exposure). But the candidates they like best is the one they know very little about. Mr. Powell appears to strong and quiet (his African-American descent apparently is not viewed negatively). But voters cannot identify his position on economic, political or socialissues - primarily because since his retirement Mr. Powell has been most circumspect in his pronouncements on the

What if be were to end the speculation of the press and announce his intention to run? Could his public image withstand press scrutiny? Would his popularity remain high once be was defined? Or he be able to articulate and define himself in sufficiently ambiguous terms to be able to maintain his pre-exposure apepal to all segments of the political

In Mr. Powell's current appeal one sees clearly the dilemma of U.S. politics today. Voters are alienated from politics and see the political system as not working. They are tired of the endless debates and the one-upsmanship of politics as usual. Our politics today are the politics of sensationalist "tabloids" and argumentive and noisy talk shows (of which CNN's "Crossfire" is the archetype). The yearning for a strong, quiet leader who can be whatever and whomever you want him to be borders on a cut-worship fantasy. But that is what the press and politicians have created.

The challenge facing the two major parties is to change this game or realise that they will face more and oot less

confusion in U.S. national politics.

In any case, the race for '96 has begun. And in this race, the president and his defeated and divided party are facing victorious but equally divided Republican party. With a solid 40 per cent to 45 per cent electoral base, the president can win a three-way race. If it is a four way race, the picture is quite confused.

The key to remember is that between now and November of 1996, the press and the political parties will focus even more on the elections. All issues, both domestic and foreign, will be examined to see what stances play best with the voters and the press in the all-important run for the White House.

# Russia can't enter the future by turning to the past

By Yegor Gaidar

MOSCOW - The bloody debacle unfolding in Chechenya is not a surprise. It is the inevitable result of a general switch of Russian policy, evident from the beginning of 1994, back towards an imperial mentality and towards the so-called "strengthening of the state."

I resigned as first deputy prime minister at the start of 1994 precisely because I had failed to convince President Boris Yeltsin that such a course would lead to disaster. He fully rejected my advice that only a firm and coberent commitment to market reforms could lead to a revival of economic growth and stability that would enable democracy to take hold over the long run.

Instead he took the opposite course throughout 1994. Economic stabilisation efforts were cut short, the government took a more repressive stand on the domestic scene, and in foreign policy Russia moved away from the Western democracies and became more aggressive in dealing with neighbours in

the "near abroad." The Dec. 6 summit in Budapest of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), at which Mr. Yeltsin unleashed worries by speaking of a "cold peace," was a severe defeat for the advances that Russian foreign policy had made in recent years.

I am not aware of all the internal details of this turn of events during 1994. But having been in that situation before, I can imagine how various advisers insisted in their conversations with the president that "liberal traditions don't have roots in Russia" and that "it is bigh time to establish order and put your foot down."

The relative victory of Vladimir Zhirinovsky in the last elections gave added force to the argument that such reasoning accorded with Russian pub-



lic opinion.

Apparently, there was no one left in his circle to warn the president that when someone in Russia talks in a trembling voice about "strengthening the state," it usually leads to a bloody mess. especially when it means that the government decides to resolve complicated and delicate ethnic problems by force. Now these same advisers make helpless gestures and exclaim that they didn't intend events to unfold as they have.

If my experience is any guide, the mechanism to shield those responsible then becomes engaged out of fear of the consequences of their actions. Usually that means trying to cover up the mistakes of the first venture by diverting attention with an even bigger one. In the days and weeks ahead, we must be very

wary of what is to come on this score. This whole dynamic has led Mr. Yeltsin to commit ever more tragic mistakes, which together now present a major threat to my country. I have already said publicly that the danger of a military coup cannot be ruled out.

The combat in Chechenya is, first of all, a major blow to the hardheld unity of Russia. Only six months ago, one could say that all talk about dissolution of the Federation was irresponsible speculation by those who understood little. Today this menace has become se-

rious. Everybody understands that the government won't be able to undertake military action everywhere tronble pops up. The army bas shown in Grozny that it is not very well prepared and

organised. That means that the central authorities are discredited. Faith in them has been undermined, and people look upon them as unrehable, unpredictable

and dishonest. Internationally, Russia is now looked upon with distrust because its direction and intentions are un-

If the president continues to deepen bis misadventure by pursuing the policy of settling the Chechen issue by force, Grozny will certainly fall, but with unacceptably large oumbers of casualties. And after that only one-thing is certaio: a long-term guerrilla war, or at least a terrorist conflict, all paid for with the lives of our hapless

young men.
While it is unlikely that an Islamic front will form against Russia, we can be sure that we will suffer vio-

lent hostility from within the Federation - not only from Chechenya but also from Ingushetia and the

Chechen part of Dagestan. The key to stopping this disaster from blowing up further is fully within the hands of President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. This is true oot only according to Russian constitution but also in the actual balance of political forces io the country.

I know they fear that, if we leave Chechenya now, Russia will disintegrate as the Soviet Unioo did. But they should ask themselves why did this not happen before. De facto. Checheoya became independent back in the au-tumn of 1991, when we still had a Soviet president. Despite the secessionist declarations, Russia did not disintegrate in the intervening years; but became morre unified and strong. Sowby suddeoly bomb Chechenya now, in 1995? What changed?

Ooe excuse for waging war now is that the crime problem emanating from networks in Chechenya has got out of control. True. there is such a problem. But should be resolved by the ordinary means employed against criminals elsewhere. If we were to follow the logic of Mr. Yeltsin's advisers on this score, we would bave to start bombing a host of Moscow soburbs where there are Mafia-type concentrations far more threatening to the daily life of

ordinary Russians.

Certainly it is barder to get ont of Chechenya now theo it was beforee Dec. 16, when the chances for a peaceful resolution were irresponsibly squandered by Deputy Prime Minister Nikolai Yegorov, who was assigned to the negotia-

tions. Still, from the standpoint of Russia's overall interests, negotiations will yield better results than any resolution of the Chechen conflict that could possibly emerge from continued use

Simply, there are other ways to think about the problem. Is Britain about to disintegrate because of its negotiations with the IRA? Will China disintegrate because is has not

cooquered Taiwan? Like many other Russians, I can only hope that Mr. Yeltsin will see, as a result of this disaster, that the old methods cannot be applied to the new world: that Russia's future cannot be secured by a return to

the babits of the past. The way to begin changing course is by ridding himself of those advisers in the Defence Ministry and the National Security Council who pushed himbeyond his better instincts.

This comment was translated by Genrikh Borovik for New Perspectives Quarterly.



and a state terms and the state of the state

- - - : - = in am ba

· Tangna

Te inchi

and the second second

recording to the second recording

- Other

- -

200

# 5

7 5 578

-, it 5

-. . · P

··--- 117

10 mg

in this part

press at

- 2: 2: 27d defige

- altenated fin

de fonds to mon comment ob comment of the comment o

AY, JANUARY 16 19

e National Rainbow Celling the Top for organization of the organization of the Damocratic Properties of the Damocratic Properties of the Commission of the C

comprehensive agricultural of the Wadi Araba region.

Mr. Ben Tarif said that the Ministry of Agriculture distributed nearly half a million

selected as a symbol for olive saplings and 300,000 peace and a step towards other fruit saplings this year, in addition to seven million and economic development forest trees to be planted during this agricultural season hy organisations, individuals, schools, farmers and

### House assails U.N. move

Arbor Day symbolises hope

(Continued from page 1)

(Continued from page 1)

form a technical committee to study the farmers' demands in order to reach a decision that would "do justice to both producers and

The committee also recommended that the farmers' debts to the Jordan Cooperative Organisation be paid in accordance with a schedule that would take into account

the harvesting seasons of

The House, which will hold its next meeting Wednesday, also referred to its Judicial Committee a draft law on the establishment of a union for artists and a draft law on insurance, which was sent hack to the House by the Upper House of Parliament after amending it.

### Saudis, Yemenis in standoff

(Continued from page 1)

tween Sanaa and Riyadh, "Yemeni soldiers recovered part of the disputed sector, but the Saudis are demanding that the troops withdraw before continuing talks with-Sanaa."

Tension has remained high between the two countries, whose relations deteriorated during the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis when Rivadh accused Sanaa of backing Baghdad.

Yemen claims sovereignty over three provinces — Najran, Jizan and Assir assigned to the Sandi king-dom under a treaty signed in 1934. Sanaa argues that the treaty expired in September 1992 and is opposed to re-

newing it.
Official Yemeni sources said on Sunday the departure for Riyadh by a high-level delegation led by Parliamentary Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Ben Hussein Al Ahmar, which was due on Saturday, had been delayed at Saudi Arabia's request.

The delay in the visit by the delegation, supposed to pave the way for a reconciliation trip to Saudi Arabia by President Saleh, was the second in less than a week. The delegation was to have left on Wednesday.

"The visit is still on. It is only a question of when. another official source said

### **Rocket hits settler house**

(Continued from page 1)

accidentally during a training exercise at a nearby base, but after preliminary inquiries helieved that unknown assailants had staged a dramatic attack.

Tensions were running high in the city after soldiers on Saturday used tear-gas to halt clashes. Trouble erupted after settlers tried to force Arab shopkeepers to close to observe the Jewish holy day.

A Palestinian wounded two settlers on the edge of Hebron on Thursday.

Hehron, home to about 400 Jewish settlers among more than 110,000 Arabs, is a flashpoint of violence. It has been especially tense since last February when a settler shot dead more than 30 Palestinian worshippers in a

In Nablus, Israeli troops fired teargas at Palestinians who were harling stones at them on Sunday. No injuries were reported.

Joint crime ring Israeli soldiers, a Palestinian policeman and Israeli

crooks joined forces in a car theft scam, the authorities said Sunday.

Israeli police stumbled on the ring when they halted a suspect car at a road block

Two soldiers and a leading underworld figure were arrested several weeks ago and revealed how the gangoperated.

near the autonomous Gaza

A car thief in Beersheva, southern Israel, would tell soldiers where he had parked stolen vehicles. They would drive them through the border crossing into Gaza and the Palestinian policeman would take care of them from

The soldiers were paid \$300 per car. Hundreds of vehicles went through the system, police

### **Chechens fend off Russians**

(Continued from page I)

bnildings on the square. Room hy room we fought the Russians. We captured about 30 prisoners. There were Russian marines fighting in some of the buildings," he

As he spoke, sporadic artillery fire rocked a city which is already strewn with ruhhle from fighting that bas caused the deaths of hundreds of Russian soldiers and Chechen fighters and civi-

Witnesses said five people were killed on Sunday morning when a mortar bomb or artillery shell slammed into a five-storey building in Grozny's South Square area.

The bodies of two of the victims, middle-aged men in civilian clothes with head wounds, were laid ont on the concrete floor of a community centre.

At Mozdok air base in southern Russia from where Moscow is launching its operation, Russian officers acknowledged they were meeting tough resistance from Chechen independence fight-

"It seems that those who remain in the presidential palace are determined to die there," an officer who declined to be identified told a

Reuter correspondent. On Sunday, Russian aircraft bombed several villages outside Grozny, including Chali, 30 kilometres southeast and Chiri-Yurt, 30 kilometres to the south. But witnesses to the attack could not say if there were casual-

At the Russian base of Tolstoi Yurt, 20 kilometres north of Grozny, a Russian defence ministry spokesman said the Russian forces had completely surrounded the presidential palace.

The spokesman, Andrei Antonov, said the Russian military had also encircled

Grozny itself, including its lifeline road to the south.

He said that the Russian forces were winning control of hnildings around the palace, one by one, and that the Chechen defenders were down to five tanks, eight armoured troop carriers, 15 cannons and eight rocketlaunchers.

In Moscow, the government's official press service said: "It was decided to continue combat operations on Sunday to seize central Grozny, to block, to disengage and to disarm illegal armed

It acknowledged that air strikes were being made against "separate targets." Sunday's raids were clearly aimed at terrorising the local populations which are sure Moscow aims at destroying them in order to keep its grip

on the tiny Caucasian repub-Many Chechens are quick to compare their plight with the siege of Stalingrad, now called Volgograd, which was flattened by Hitler's armies in 1942 and 1943 but became a proud symbol of resistance to

the Nazis. Military experts say that, just like Stalingrad, the capture of a city like Grozny is impossible without a heavy loss of life and massive resources. Before the war

started a month ago, the city had a population of 400,000. The Russian military seems reluctant to send its infantry into a final pitched battle for

Grozny. The latest assault by the Russians, which started on Thursday, is the third in the war, which started on Dec. 11 when Russian troops rolled into Chechenya to crush its three-year-old drive to secede from Russia.

The Chechens have made a mockery of the Russian army which, for all its inefficiency,



# A map does not a nation make

Redrawing Africa's borders will do nothing to

solve the continent's problems, says Richard Dowden

THE SEARCH for the been the source of war or cause of Africa's woes political instability in Afriand an appropriate reca. Since independence 30 sponse to them - is beyears ago. African heads of coming increasingly a nonstate have agreed that the debate between two groups borders are inviolable and of fantasists. On the one would not be challenged. side stand the economic By and large they have doctors from the World kept that agreement. Apart Bank and the International from Somalia's invasion of Monetary Fund who repeat Ethiopia in 1977 and Tanthe endless mantras that zania's invasion of Uganda their medicine is working in 1979, Africa's wars have and things will get better. not been between states or Behind them stand the about borders. They have Western governments who been internal conflicts. The question is: would

control them, calling for 'good governance' and Africa be any more stable if sustained economic the borders were redrawn? adjustment." pausing only But that raises the question of what Africa was like to wring their hands at yet another disaster. before the Europeans came On the other side is an and what it would be like alliance between unreconhad there been no imperial structed Marxist

intervention. In the mid-19th century. academics, many of them Africans living in exile, and Africa contained between 6.000 and 10,000 political the politically correct here who want to believe that units usually kingdoms. Africa would have been a based on linguistic, cultural paradise if it had not been or ethnic groups. In only a for European intervention. few cases were there Their solution is for the permanent institutions that West to pay billions of survived the death of the pounds of "compensation ruler. Most cannot be called states, and they were in for slavery, imperialism and economic exploitation. a constant flux of conquest and absorption, domina-The two groups live in their own fantasy worlds and do tion and disintegration. not talk to each other. It is hard to see how,

Africans living in Africa will change and perhaps within 100 years, thousands of such societies would save Africa. But they could have evolved any more be greatly helped by outsidpeacefully into modern ers were it not for this states. polarisation of the debate The centralised nation-- in which both sides are states bequeathed to Africa

far removed from Africa's by Europe are now under pressure from above and below. From above, the West has imposed radical economic changes on African states. Their currencies ity: Africa's borders. The have been floated and the urban elite — the professionals on whom any state depends — have been im-poverished by the subsequent collapse in their salaries. State enterprises, Several leading African thinkers, including Profes-sor Ali Mazrui of Kenya sources of almost endless political patronage that brought some siability, have been sold or closed down. The boss can no longer use the glue of state patronage to keep a nation together.

In fact, daft and disrup-Meanwhile, as a new tive as they were, these generation becomes disilluboundaries have rarely sioned with a failing politic-

al system, there are calls for democracy and freedom. Shorn of any ideology or meaningful national rallying cry, they tend to forge alliances on ethnic or regional grounds. The reemergence of these ethnic alliances is threatening to tear Africa to pieces as Somalia and Liberia have been destroyed. But does that mean that the state boundaries should be redrawn, taking account of these atavistic ethnic divisions?

There have been two cases recently where new states have been carved out of the independence boundaries. One is Eritrea - a country whose sole historical claim to statehood was based on its once having been an Italian colony. Far from resurrecting an ancient African state or

kingdom, Eritrea was purely colonial in its origins. The second is Somalia. where the northern clans recreated Somaliland, another colonial border. Somalia is also the only country in Africa with a single ethnic group, culture, language and religion. The examples of neither Somalia nor Eritrea suggest that a redrawing of Africa's

boundaries is a solution.

Wars elsewhere in Africa in Uganda, Angola and Liheria, for example have not been caused by secessionisi movements: they are the result of winner-takes-all politics whereby an ethnic group that failed to win an election and felt excluded. waged war to bring down the winner Zaire, there has recently been a secessionist movement in the south, but it seems to derive from personal haired for President Mobutu, not from a genuine desire to be a separate state. A similar hatred for the Thatcher government resulted in the sudden rise in support for Scottish independence in the late

In Rwanda and Burundi, the Hutus and Tutsis have never inhabited separate territories, so boundary redrawing is irrelevant.

They lived on the same hills, in the same communes - which is why civil war turned into genocide. War in such circumstances is not about defending territory but about removing the other people completely - extermination. In this. Rwanda and Burundi are unique in Africa; nowhere else do two peoples live locked into the same society and land.

wise men can solve Africa's wars by wandering around the continent with maps and pencils and shifting a few boundary markers is as ludictous as it sounds.

weakens in Africa, powerful barons are emerging who command the allegiance of their regional or ethnic group. In some areas it is the traditional rulers who are reemerging. Far from being swept away by the march of (Western) progress, these families have hegun reasserting themselves. Their sons and daughters, educated as accountants, lawvers and businessmen, are bringing together the old and the modern and forming new networks of power and influence.

In Uganda, the recently reestablished court of the Kabaka is resurfacing as a political power base. In Nigeria, the Obas and Emirs and other local kings, always discreetly powerful, are now becoming more open and public in their exercise of influence. In South Africa, following the restoration of power to the Zulu king. there are a host of other kings and chiefs stretching their political muscles.

formal states is that too often they depend on a single man. Because of the nature of the extended African family, when a man dies scores and sometimes hundreds of relatives descend for their cut - and are paid off. It is exceedingly difficult for a financial empire — or a

political one - to be handed down to a single successor. In some African kingdoms, the death of the king was followed by chaos in which the potential successors fought each other until one killed or drove out all his rivals. have to deal with these new

power bases. They may

fight them or they may

The idea that a group of

What may happen, in fact, is that the boundaries simply melt. As the state to operate there. Without investment, eco-

funds as local investment.

The problem of these in-

Central governments will

establish written or unwritten agreements with them, but in a few year's time, when a stranger travels through Zaire, for example, he may need not only a visa from central government, but he will also need the blessing of the local chief, warlord or king. A company that wishes to do business in Africa will pay tax not only to the central government but to the local chief as well. It will be messy and complicated but in many places it is already happening. Only com-panies who know how the system works, modelling themselves on Tiny Rowland's Lonrho, will be able

nomic development will have to emerge from within. This may not be the obstacle it sounds, since many of the families who are carving out empires for themselves in Africa are very rich indeed. At present, however, they prefer 10 put their money in banks in Europe because of instability at home. The stability they might themselves provide could induce them to bring back some of their

Alongside these new power bases, irading patterns are developing which appear the on no World Bank statistic. Some are old routes suppressed by the imperial horders. others are new: but Africa's hidden market makes the continent far richer than the official figures sug-

Many of these new informal states and trading routes cross the state boundaries. How will that affect them? Sierra Leone. for example, might have

ambassadors posted throughout the world, even though the government in fact controls little more than Freetown. It could also be that when one crosses the border from Sierra Leone into Guinea, there would be a man with a stamp who checks your passport and takes money. Whether that money goes into his own pocket, or to a local baron, or to the central government, woud depend on local political circumstances. With other countries, the borders may simply melt away as new trading and travelling routes make them

This certainly seems the most likely outcome in West Africa, where Liberia and Sierra Leone have already evolved along these lines. Cameroon and Togo are waiting to go the same way and there are similar rumblings in Nigeria and Ghana. Only the national armies are preventing this. But as states become poorer and weaker, the lovalties of national armies are thrown into doubt. They, too, may find other allegiances, either as a unit or fragmented.

In East Africa the conditions exist for a similar evolution, depending on what happens in Kenya, The exception, for the moment, is southern Africa as long as South Africa remains strong, single and stable. If it does, it will establish a political economic and military hegemony in the region and may even extend its influence as far as southern Zaire.

In the rest of the continent, though, the nation-state may be in terminal decline. New networks of power and wealth are emerging. These new networks, growing out of the ruins, may have deeper foundations and may create more truly indigenous structures than the imperial heritage. They are the realities outsiders must recognise and respond to.

The Independent

equipment.

# Sawt Al Shaab firing sparks row

the conflict and he offered Mr. Tarawneh the chance to resign in order to "save his

realities.

Take, for example, their

analyses of the supposed

cause of political instabil-

accepted view among

Western politicians is that

ence of tribalism. The other

side blames the borders

that were drawn by the

imperial European powers.

and Wole Soyinka, the

Nigerian Nobel prize-

winning playwright, have

recently called for them to

be redrawn.

it is the inevitable consequ-

He added that Mr. Tarawneh refused to take a leave of absence he had offered him. Accordingly, Mr. Majali said he took the decision to fire Mr. Tarawneh with the backing of all 11 members of the Mr. Majali rejected

charges he was interfering in the editorial policy of the paper. But Mr. Tarawneh referred to specific incidents when he refused to run articles nnder the signature of "the editor" at the request of Majali, such as an article criticising former Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat. The article was finally printed under the by-line of "the editorial consultant," whose growing influence at the pap-

er, according to one journal-

ist, "is becoming alarming."

Mr. Tarawneh admitted

that he refused to draft a new organisational structure for the newspaper but said his decision was based on his refusal to terminate the services of journalists, which he said was the goal of the request for reorganisation.

He said he refused the leave of absence Mr. Majali offered him because that would have allowed the chairman and the editorial consultant to run the articles they wanted in the days before the announcement of the new cahinet while he was still the editor of the paper.

"I did not mind praising the previous government. But I did mind unfair criticism of Jordanian political personalities,: he said. Mr. Tarawneh said the

board of directors entrusted Mr. Majali with solving the problem through reconciliation and not by firing him, adding that some members of the board oppose his dismis-

"Members of the board did not even mee; with me 10 listen to my point of view. For that I blame them," said Mr. Tarawneh, who in the past worked as chief editor of Al Dustour Arabic daily, and most recently as adviser at the Ministry of Information. A member of the board,

Quteibeb Abu Qura, de-

clined comment on the issue

and others were not available for comment Sunday. One journalist at the newspaper who requested anonymity said the journalists were upset about the way in which Mr. Tarawneh was fired. "Editors should not be tre-

ated that way," he said. But he said Mr. Tarawneb should have cooperated in drawing up a new organisational structure which he could have presented in a way that would have improved the working conditions of the journalists without succumbing to demands for terminating the services

of any member of the staff. "That would have put the ball in the management's court," he said. The journalist conceded that the performance of the paper was declining but attributed that to the "frustrating" conditions in which journalists work.

"We informed the chairman in a meeting that we were not going to work properly in the conditions that prevail at the paper. You cannot pay a journalist JD 150 a month and expect him to work with his full potential," he said. The journalist spoke of a

general frustration among the staff for the failure of the management to redress their situation, blaming that more than any other reason, for the apparent decline in the performance of the newspaper. But Mr. Majali said the

paper would get a new lease of life now that it has obtained permission from the Ministry of Trade and Industry to seek JD 5 million of new investment in the paper.

### U.N. completes Mogadishu move

(Continued from page 12) Dec. 17. The gunmen then barricaded the office. Civilian staff were being

withdrawn from the main U.N. compound in Mogadishu on Sunday and oulled back to the southern compound and the nearby airport and seaport.

The U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) has sacked about 600 of its 2,500 Somali employees and is preparing to lay off others in line with its plan to withdraw from the Horn of Africa country by the end of March.

The sackings have raised panic among Somalis and many former employees are scrambling to register claims for what they say is money owed to them by UNOSOM. All aid agencies in the capital suspended non-

emergency operations last napped by gunmen on the effort but the Americans road to Mogadishu airport on wasten

Diplomats expect full-scale war to break out between rival factions in Mogadishu after the U.N. pullout, with each trying to grab what they can of abandoned U.N.

Mr. Ali Mahdi said on Saturday a battle for the main U.N. compound loomed. The port would close unless a committee of clans was put in charge of it, he said.

He said the departure of U.N. troops might prompt all foreign aid workers to leave. resulting in a famine similar

to that of 1991 and 1992. At least 300,000 people died in the famine that followed a complete collapse of authority in Somalia after president Mohammad Siad Barre was toppled early in

1991. A U.S.-led U.N. force in week to press for the release 1992 moved in to curb anarof a French aid worker kid- chy and support the relief sures.

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait plans to slash a Gulf warinflated budget deficit by a third to one billion dinars 1\$3.34 billion) in 1995/96, Finance Minister Nasser

Abdulla Al Rodhan said in remarks published Sunday. T. Al Waian newspaper recc ported: "Rodhan said in a in statement to Watan that the in deficit in the general state of budget in 1995/96 fiscal year Is would fall by 500 million diw: nars (\$1.67 billion) to an expected deficit of one billion

O dinars (\$3.34 billion)." Sheikh Rodhan said the cut in for the year starting on July 1 H. would be the result both of cu public spending reductions se and revenue increases. He the budget. Officials, worried by a de-

be submitted to the cabinet

within two weeks, he said.

The proposals will later be

submitted for debate to the

opposition-dominated parlia-

ment, which must approve

ficit that has ballooned due to the war in which a U.S.-led alliance ejected Iraq from the emirate, have said that next year they will cut spending in a several sectors and reduce subsidies on petrol and services such as water and elec-

They also plan to increase

gave no details of these meacustoms levies and introduce telephone charges for domes-The 1995/95 budget would tic calls, which are now free.

> Neighbouring Saudi Arabia this month announced similar measures for 1995 to curb its own budget shortfall.

Sheikh Rodhan said the budget cut would be in line with the government's plan to eliminate the deficit, now equivalent almost to a quarter of gross domestic product. by the year 2000.

The 1994/95 budget projects 4.14 billion dinars (\$13.2 billion) in spending and 2.637 billion (\$13.2 billion) in revenue, with a ner shortfall of 1.502 billion dinars (\$5.0 billion).

The government in 1993/94 overshot its spending by 15 per cent, largely because of extra military expenses, leaving an estimated net deficit of 1.77 dinars billion dinars (\$5.9 billion).

Sheikh Rodinan in November ordered a 25 per cent cut in 1994/95 non-oil construction and maintenance projects and miscellaneous expenses to cope with unplanned expenditure on military support from allies during a border confrontation with Iraq in October.

In practice the cut was achieved largely by deferring projects not yet signed, offi-

'94 data

### to tap into Central Europe CLEVELAND (R) - Presigave the president a forum to reiterate U.S. security interests in the region and his

trolled Congress.

belief that America remain

engaged in the world.
"We must reach out, not

retrench," Mr. Clinton said,

pledging to form a bipartisan

coalition of likeminded mem-

bers of the Republican con-

He said an agreement be-

tween the White House and

Democratic and Republican

leaders of Congress

announced Thursday to help

Mexico through its current

financial crisis "demonstrates

the potential of a coalition

committed to America's in-

terests in the world of tomor-

announced U.S. government

support for two investment

funds in central and eastern

Europe. The Overseas Pri-

vate Investment Corpora-

tion, which provides political

insurance to U.S. overseas

Mr. Clinton also

Clinton urges U.S. companies

dent Bill Clinton has urged American businesses to "reach out" and tap into the potential of a \$500 billion market in central Europe saying it will help solidify market reforms and lead to "real security."

"More trade and investment is good for central Europe, but make no mistake about it is also very good for the United States," Mr. Clinton told business leaders attending a conference here on commercial opportunities in the former communist bloc.

Sounding a familiar theme. Mr. Clinton said it will mean more jobs and higher wages for American workers. adding it also means " more real security" as economic ties are strengthened.

Expanding trade and U.S. exports is the cornerstone of Mr. Clinton's economic policy and the conference attended by more than 300 U.S. business executives and

investors, agreed to provide \$340 million in loan guaran-

That backing coupled with Mexico to guarantee U.S

other U.S. programmes will help back more than \$4 billion in private investment inthe region, Mr. Clinton said. He said most of the coun-

tries in the region have undertaken the reforms necessary to "build credibility with investors and trading partners." and that those who have moved with the "greatest conviction" are among the fastest growing. countries in the region.

But he also warned that those countries have to be sure to create an favourable environment for investors. Businesses, he said, will reject projects if roadblocks are too high especially in light of compention for trade and investment from Latin America and Asia. U.S. firms are the biggest

investors in central and eastern Europe, the White House said. The account for about 35 per cent of the \$15 billion in foreign investment in the region since 1989. Since 1988. U.S. firms have tripled their exports to the area. Mr. Clinton said it was



Bill Clinton

fitting that the conference be held in Cleveland because of the large ethnic population with ties to central Europe. Cleveland becoming centre for international trade accounting for about \$5.5 billion in annual exports that support about 100,000 jobs.
The conference included

delegates from Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic. Estonia, the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia are invited to attend along with American business leaders.

. aid with revenues

the rise seemd of 1904, there

persons behind "unling cheques interior honoured due from funds in their The number of peked up for the fine at the end of a 1505 less. Amman er General Rateb shevealed that there success of uncleared on 1994 whereas the an 1903 stood at ben during the first meneral's office re-(19) cases of uncleared a compared to 155 mug the first ten days According to Mr. and most cheques

possiore cheques. Chamber of Industry cha Khaldoun Abu Esad that in 1995 2 330,800 cheques, cartralue of JD 300 milen not cleared. The and returned cheques projuper cent higher - 1992 Bankers attriagainst to the eco-1 dowdown in genera! a the pressure exerted a beneficiary on a degamite a cheque to e as a guarantee. paresson could well be grocess whereby a za would write a cheen the strength of

E Central Bank of

andeque he had re-

Einmathird party (Al

enwemment decided

arations are under iold the economic dis assumed that the

The to providing work

Semment will have a Silved will have and ministries and

neat A review monnic news

0.

Sec.

in 79

S: N

figui

fe:

SC111

1.3 11

dires

Data

Pacif

per 3

AM

maid

azı:

cres !

10.5

deb:

mark

V Cak

Maxi.

401:7

jigan

34)

Tuesd

ster!in

ic the

curren

and st

who s

and s

from a

conting

curren

Thursd

apprec

the Ma

ignite#

Hong :

POSITIO:

הבקבנ

A: :

Ечгора

decline

Spanish

ការែន:៩

news th

appoint

East en

Th≏լ

yen and

New You

Currer

Sterba:

Dec!sch

Suist F

French

Japanes

Euro-Cu

Current

Ç.S., 130

Sterling

Deutsche

Swiss Fr

French 3

Japanese

Contral B

Currency

L.S. Doi

Sicring 1

Deutsche

Swiss Fra

French F

Japanete

Dulch Go Swedish K

Halian Lis

Bel-at Fr

F

Adv

Per 100

The

 $C_{D}$ 

T:

Th

husiness

Isiness &

wincing heques

plans to set up a to study the rising teturned The commutee will 25d by Dr. Hamzeh alabayer, and reprea from the central the Association of and the ಪಾಠ commerce and The number of redeques during the a months of last year -24 352,000 cheques The to JD 302 million. and of returned che-Singthe whole of 1993 ाम 350,000 cheques the of JD 306 million

no produce grains by higher prices for upm, Prices differ to the kind of 2 wheat, for exambehought for JD 165 instead of JD 147 all be bought per tonne instead

Amman from Oct. Nov. 1. 1995. nowledgeable knowledgeable of participants from the world and from and private sectors be less than one cd The projects to be call to the participants for speedy agreed not to limit assions to big projets Schemes that

lordanian decided four new centres for like thee market of serve

the clock (Al Rail. Department of Spead financially inde. of Tuesday, Jan.

institutions as in manuacing from e sector (Al Ra'i).

### The central bank is widely expected to tighten credit at

ist WASHINGTON (AFP) re; Inflation remained under control through the end of sei 1994, but some economists he nited in 1995 if the economic boom continues and low unemployment builds pressure on wages.

The Labour Department reported Wednesday that the 7 per cent inflation rate in 1994 was the same as in the previous year and the best figures since the 1960s. The December price index

was up a modest 0.2 per cent, lower than expected by most

The latest figures sparked renewed debate as to whether the Federal Reserve ing (Fed), which raised interest rates six times last year. should boost them again to avoid any overhearing of the есолоту.

Some economists maintain that dangers persist with a rapidly growing economy,

Egypt, Iran

to boost ties

CAIRO (AFP) - Egypt and

iran are planning joint in-

oustrial projects as part of

moves to bolster economic

ties, the Egyptian industry ministry said Sunday, Iranian

industry officials who arrived

in Cairo Friday discussed

joint projects with Egyptian

Industry Minister Ibrahim

[ told AFP. Spokesman

is the projects - notably in

| industry - would be fi-

Fawzi, a ministry spokesman

Mohammad Al Bahnassi said

iron and steel and the car

nanced by the Saudi-based

Islamic Development Bank.

The Iranian officials also

asked to take part in the

Cairo International Fair in

the Egyptian sugar com-

March. Mr. Bahnassi said.

pany recently signed a con-

tract to provide industrial

fineries in Iran, Mr. Bahnassi

added. Egyot agreed in

November to repay \$149 bil-

lion of debt to Iran dating

from the rule of the shah in

the form of industrial equip-

C equipment for five sugar re-

and suggest that the Fed will be pushed into rightening credit to avert runaway infla-

Inflation risks in U.S. remain despite

the Jan. 31 meeting of its policymaking Federal Open

Market Committee. There was acceleration in 1994, and we expect to see more of it," said University of Georgia economist Donald

Ratajczak. The Federal Reserve is slowing the rate of increase. but it probably needs to do a little more," Mr. Ratajczak

"Although this was a favourable report. I don't think the risks for an acceleration of inflation in 1995 have altered much," said Mike Moran, chief economist for Daiwa Securities America, "Given the economic performance, the Fed cannot

Other economists maintain

however that the Fed bas overreacted to inflation and may be choking off economic growth by ratcheting up in-

"Inflation continues to be more moderate than the Federal Reserve's attitude toward it," said Ron Schreibman of the National Association of Wholesale Distribu-

Some business leaders argue that the globalisation of the economy has increased competition and forced U.S. firms to keep prices stable. and that the Federal Reserve actions could trigger a reces-

"The slowdown in the CPI (consumer price index) provides additional evidence that inflation is still stable, despite strong demand in the fourth quarter," said Jerry Jasinowski. president of the National Association of Manufacturers.

quarter economic growth on Analysts predict a robust gain in gross domestic product for the three-month

The government is due to

announce figures for fourth-

period — about four per cent — and for all of 1994 the strongest growth in a decade. Unemployment fell to 5.4 per cent in December, the Labour Department said last week, the lowest in more than four years, which analysts say could increase

pressure on wages and, eventually, on prices. Overall, the 1994 inflation rate was the lowest since 1965

wben prices rose 1.9 per cent. The encouraging consumer price report came the day after the government released figures showing that wholesale prices remained under control throughout last year, rising a modest 1.7 per

### 230 officials from central and eastern Europe countries

MEXICO CITY (R) - Mexico will use future oil export revenues as collateral for part of a huge U.S. currency support package but is not mortgaging the nation's oil wealth, finance ministry officials said.

In a statement Saturday, the finance ministry sought to refute reports in Mexico that the country was offering its jealously-guarded crude oil as a guarantee of repayment for up to \$40 billion in aid being put together by the month, Mexico went into a tailspin, dashing the reputa-

U.S. government and Con-

After a surprise devaluation of its currency last tion it had built over the past decade as a star of emerging markets. Since Dec. 20, the peso has dropped over 30 per cent in value against the dol-

As foreign investors bailed out of Mexico, its crisis spilled over onto other Lann American nations, prompting

establish a massive emergency stabilisation fund to try to calm the waters. The storm began to die

industrialised countries to

down after the United States announced Wednesday that it was willing to expand the initial \$18 billion rescue package for Mexico, and do what was necessary to get Mexico back on its feet. The Mexican finance

ministry said it would use projected future oil export earnings as a means of

projects ahead of you.

practical side of life.

. .\_. \_\_ ...

11 Authoritic 12 Web 520

good friends and close loved ones.

practical to handle your situation.

future. Do a special favour for your mate.

try official told Reuters Saturday the government would issue securities backed by the future oil revenues to raise money. "The nature of the financial operation... is equal or

guaranteeing it would repay

the loans. One finance minis-

similar to operations carried out by our country for more than 12 years and is of common use in international financial markets," the state-

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The Full Moon in Cancer (moonchild

is very poorly aspected making it difficult to enjoy the morning and you won't gain anything by trying to push through lunch. Evening is best for social activities and romance.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Getting agreements improved with others will make it easier to carry through with your part of them.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Begin the week properly by giving more attendion to the duties ahead of you. Have important meetings

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Early set up appointments with persons you like for evening, and then dig right into all those

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Be sure to keep promises you have made to your family, and then later you can be with your

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Be cautious in the handling of

communications in the morning since later you have to rush home and get the situation there improved.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Financial affairs are impor-tant in the morning so handle them carefully. Keep rooted to the

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Go after your personal affairs

in the morning since later you have to be more concerned with the

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) It is important you go to advisors confidentially and learn how to make greater progress in the

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) In your spare time, go after some personal goal and gain it quickly. Be tactful with your friends. Avoid confrontations with others.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Begin the day properly by handling civic affairs wisely, and then you can pursue intimate goals which you desire greatly.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Study your new goals early and then find better ways of gaining prestige. Don't let anyone flambozzie you on any activities.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A thoughtful gift for your mate in the morning can work wonders for you now. Be more broad-minded, you are highly inspired.

Birthstone of January: Garnet - Rose Quartz

Have fun in the evening with close friends,

# Nigeria's military ruler opens economy in '95 budget

LAGOS IR1 - Nigeria's military ruler announced his government's delayed 1995 budget Saturday after a year of political and economic turmoil, promising moves back to market reforms and less restrictive foreign exchange

General Sani Abacha also pledgd to continue repayments on Nigeria's mounting foreign debts.

The 1995 budget is a budget of incentives, and a budget of liberalisation. General Abacha said in a radio and television broad-He repealed the 1962 ex-

change control act "to allow the inflow of funds" and a 1989 decree which barted majority stakes in many

"Government shall examine all laws, regulations, rules, etc that hinder the free flow of investments and funds into Nigeria." General Abacha said. Such rules will be repealed and the regula-tions relaxed."

Egypt and Iran broke off diplomatic ties after Iran's Islamic revolution in 1979.

said the autonomous foreign exchange market - among banks and exchange bureaux - would no longer be ban-

But he said the government would stick to its officially set exchange rate of 22 naira to the dollar, fixed one year ago. General Abacha seized

power in November, 1993. and later abandoned market reforms backed by the International Monetary Fund. The exchange rate policy

in 1995 is designed to maintain the current official rate and at the same time permit the Central Bank of Nigeria to intervene in the autonomous market," General Abacha said.

omous market will now be permitted in Nigeria and the inter-bank autonomous market shall be allowed to operate freely." he added.

It was not clear how the government would deal with the wide disparity between the official and current black market rates.

"The foreign exchange market will henceforth be subject to guided deregula-

6000 .. NOW

tion, as shall interest rate

regime." he said. Nigerians and foreigners are no longer compelled to bring in foreign exchange through the central bank and can open local accounts to which they would have unrestricted access, the general

The military government appears to have subdued its political opponents in 1994 but Nigerian newspaper commentators agree that last year, marked by prodemocracy strikes and protests, was one of immense political and economic anguish for most of the coun-

try's 90 million people. General Abacha's broadthe traditional budget day of Jan. 1 and has been eagerly awaited. The finance minister is due to explain how the new foreign exchange market will operate when he gives the

budget breakdown Monday. Local business groups. foreign creditors and international finance agencies like the IMF and World Bank have called for deregulation but powerful trade unions say market reforms would worsen the plight of ordinary Nigerians.

General Abacha said the government would continue to devote about 30 per cent of anticipated official hard currency earnings to debt servicing and that 44 billion naira (S2 billion at the official exchange rate) had been earmarked for debt servicing in

Nigeria's total foreign debt stood at \$29.43 billion at the

end of October 1994. "Due to the dwindling resources of government and the heavy debt service burden. the build up of payments arrears on external loans deteriorated during the fiscal year." he said, without giving

General Abacha said the government had suspended large deficit in 1994.

the sale of shares in public companies because of "some indentified inadequacies and the huge losses incurred." Instead he announced

plans to lease out state enterprises to local and foreign The federal government's

net revenue in 1995 was expected to total 160.86 billion naira, he said.

Revenue estimates for 1995 were based on an average price of \$15 a barrel for crude oil. Nigeria's main export, and that at the current exchange rate Nigeria should earn more than 200 billion naira (\$9 billion) from oil.

General Abacha said. It was not clear from his speech whether the government ror a da lanced budget following a

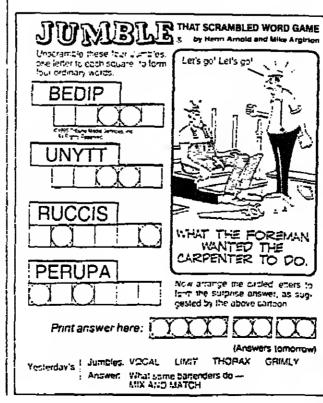
**Jordan Times** 

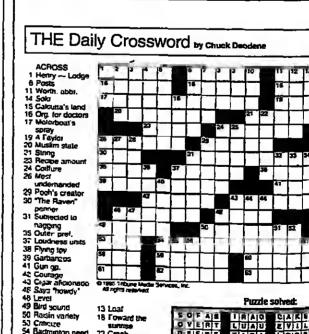
# Tel.: 667171

# GLASBERGEN

"Lots of men get cold feet before their wedding. My Stanley nearly lost three toes from frostbite!"







abbr. 27 Ness, e.g. DOWN
1 Ford e g
2 Salve ingredient
3 Explosion
4 Kind of lock
5 Aquatum lish
6 Homor
7 Opening amount
8 Activess Lupino
9 50

Monetary AuMonetary AuMalestinian currency
Multation and coop-· governor alliation and coop-Al Raij in the

# **Peanuts**















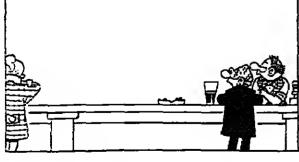
HE PROMISED = 2 - ED 769 5T TEMPTH ON THIS - BUT WHAT MAKES TO FF 5 - 3

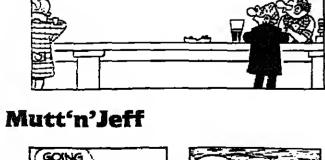
THAT LE DOESN'T MANTETEL.





### **Andy Capp**











 $r \approx r$ 

V.,

3, 7

aily eat

A review of economic news from the Arabic press

### **Bouncing** cheques on the rise

화화 At the end of 1994, there were 3,389 persons behind hars for writing cheques which were oot honoured due to insufficient funds in their accounts. The number of people locked up for the same offence at the end of 1993 was 1,505 less. Amman Attoroey-General Ratch Tarawneh revealed that there were 5,959 cases of uncleared cheques in 1994 whereas the number in 1993 stood at 3.821. Even during the first ten days of 1995, the attorney-general's office re-ceived 200 cases of uncleared cheques, compared to 155 cases during the first ten days of 1994. According to Mr. Tarawneh, most cheques were hookstore cheques. Amman Chamber of Industry President Khaldoun Ahu Hassan said that in 1993 a total of 350,800 cheques, carrying a value of JD 306 millioo, were not cleared. The number of returned cheques in 1993 was 50 per cent higher than in 1992. Bankers attribute the situation to the economie slowdown in general and to the pressure exerted by the, beneficiary on a dehtor to write a cheque to serve as a guarantee. Another reason could well be a chain process whereby a merchant would write a cheque oo the strength of another cheque he had received from a third party (Al

\*\* The Central Bank of Jordan plans to set up a committee to study the rising phenomenon of returned! cheques. The committee willbe headed by Dr. Hamzeh Haddad, a lawyer, and representatives from the central bank, the Association of Banks in Jordao and the chambers of commerce and industry. The oumber of re-turned eheques during the first ten months of last year reached 352,000 cheques amounting to JD 302 million. The number of returned cheques during the whole of 1993 was about 350,000 cheques for a value of JD 306 million (Al Dustour).

' Ra'i).

\* The government decided to increase its support to farmers who produce grains hy giving them higher prices for their ontput. Prices differ according to the kind of grain, hut wheat, for example, will be bought for JD 165 per tonne instead of JD 147 while lentils will be bought for JD 340 per tonne instead of JD 300 (AJ Ra'i).

★☆ Preparations are under way to hold the economic summit in Amman from Oct. 30 until Nov. 1, 1995. According to knowledgeable ources, it is assumed that the number of participants from all over the world and from public and private sectors would he less than one thousand. The projects to be submitted to the participants should be ready for speedy implementation. Moreover, it was also agreed not to limit the discussions to hig projets only, hut to include medium and small-scale schemes that contribute to providing work opportunities (Al Ra'i).

☆☆ Royal Jordanian decided to open four new centres for the duty-free market of Queen Alia Airport to be able to serve passengers around the clock (Al Ra'i).

AA The Department of Specifications and Standardisation will become administratively and financially independent as of Tuesday, Jan. 17, 1995. Under a new law. the department will have a board of directors representing concerned ministries and government institutions as well as representatives from the private sector (Al Ra'i).

☆☆ The governor of the Palestinian Monetary Authority said that any move to issue a Palestinian currency in the future will be carried out inconsultation and cooperation with Jordan in the first place (Al Ra'i).

# top \$100 billion in 1994

SAN JOSE, California (AFP) — World semiconductor sales breached the \$100 billion mark for the first time in 1994, soaring 28 per cent to \$109.7 billioo, according to figures released Monday.

"As the worldwide hunger for computing power rises, semiconductor companies are in the enviable position of having demand outstrip supply," said Gary Grandbois, director of specialist analysts Dataquest.

The revenue of Asia-Pacific companies grew 63 per cent to \$10.1 billion, outstripping European suppliers for the first time.

Financial

Markets.

U.S. giant Intel remained at the head of the field of semiconductor producers, with sales of more than \$10 billion and a claimed 9.2 per cent of the world market.

But while U.S. semiconductor makers remained the world leaders, with a 41.4 per cent share of the market, they were in danger of being edged out by Japanese manofacturers with 40.5 per cent.

Japanese company NEC notched up the second largest world sales, at \$7.94 billion, a 29 per ceot improvement over 1993 and a 7.2 per cent share of the market.

Another Japanese con-

in co-operation with

Cairo Amman Bank



# Foreign Exchange Market Summary (January 9 - January 13, 1995)

AMMAN — The dollar depreciated sharply against other major currencies at the end of last week. It ended the week 1.89 per cent lower against the mark, 1.23 per cent lower against sterling and 2.87 per cent lower against the yen.

The dollar retreated sharply against other major currencies Mooday. Its depreciation came on the back of political instability in both Italy and Spain. News that a leading U.S. debt rating agency might reduce the rating of Italian government bonds triggered traders to sell Italian lira for

marks. The Federal Reserve also contributed to the dollar's weakness by intervening in the market to support the Mexican currency. On the other hand, the dollar declined against the yen on comments by the U.S. ambassador to Japan, stating that his government might use the "Super 301" legislation against Japan if deemed necessary.

The dollar contioued its depreciation aganist the mark

Tuesday, while appreciating marginally against the yen and sterling. The dollar's depreciation against the mark was due to the mark's strength against both the Italian and Spanish currencies. Meanwhile, the dollar benefited against the yen and sterling from a statement by the U.S. treasury secretary, who said that he expects a stronger dollar in the future.

On Wednesday, the dollar rose slightly against the mark

and sterliog, while stabilising against the yen, though it declined during early trading hours. The U.S. unit suffered from the Mexican financial crisis, as well as, the mark's continued appreciation against the Italian and Spanish curreocies.

The dollar declined sharply against other major currencies Thursday. Its decline was due to the mark's contioued appreciation against other European currencies. Moreover, the Mexican financial crisis affected the yen positively as it ignited investors' fears from investing in both Thailand and Hoog Kong. These fers caused investors to liquidate their positions in these markets and shift their investments to

At the end of the week, the dollar rose against the European currencies while depreciating against the yen. The dollar appreciated against the mark in view of the latter's decline against the Italian and Spanish currencies. The Spanish peseta appreciated on news that the Spanish prime minister had resigned, while the Italian lira appreciated on news that former finance minister, Lamberto Dini, was appointed as Italy's new prime minister. Meanwhile, the ven continued its appreciation due to the flow of funds from East emerging markets.

The U.S. unit, thus ended the week at 1.5345 marks, 98.55 yen and at \$1.5685 to sterling.

Jose . 5495	1.5685	Change 1,23%
7/11		
.5635	1.5345	7.898
.3100	1.2890	1.631
.4000	5.2965	1.95%
01.38	98.55	2.878
	.4000 01.38	<del></del>

Euro-Currency	Interest Rates*

	6/1/	1995	13/1/	1995
Currency	1-Month (%)	1-Year (%)	1-Month (%)	1-Year (%)
U.S. Dollar	5.68	7.18	5.50	7.06
Sterling Pound	5.87	7-75	5.75	7.25
Deutsche Mark	4.87	5.68	4.68	5.56
Swiss Franc	3.75	4.56	3.43	4.37
French Franc	5.50	6.87	5.37	6.75
Japanese Yen	. 2-12	2.50	2.12	2.50
teterhead bid rates for umon	mis excepting ( A. D	ollers Land, B	PB or equivalen	4.

	Date: 15/1/1995					
Currency	Bid	Offer				
U.S. Dollar	0.6970	0.6990				
Sterling Pound	1.0923	1.0978				
Devische Mark	0.4534	0.4557				
Swiss Franc	. 0.5402	0.5429				
French Franc	0.1315	0.1322				
Japanese Yen*	0.7058	0.7093				
Dutch Guilder	0.4649	0.4069				
Swedish Krona	****	* ****				
italian Lira*,	0.0432	6.0434				
Belgias Franc	*****	*****				

# FOR YOUR in Jordan Times Call tel: 667171 ext. 223

# place with sales of \$7.52 bil-

share. The sharp increase in the world market in 1994 was even steeper than that of 1993, when sales rose 26 per

lion and a 6.9 per cent market

cent to \$85.6 billion. Japaoese semicooductor makers saw their sales improve 28 per cent to \$44.4 billion, with European sales op 28 per cent to \$9.8 billion. U.S. sales grew more slowly, but were still 22 per cent higher at \$45.4 billion.

This meant the U.S. share of the global semiconductor market shrank hy two percentage points, while that of Japan held steady and that of the Asia-Pacific region rose two points to 9.2 per cent of the total.

ARAB BANK JORDAN HATIONAL BANK / NEW JORDAN HATIONAL BANK / NEW THE SOUSING BANK

SARKS SECTOR

YARMOUK INSURANCE & REINSURANCE

JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER / HEW

INSOAREE SECTIS

JORDAN HIMES MIMERAL JORDAN HIMES MIMERAL ARAB INTERNATIONAL BOTELS JORDAN MATIONAL SECURITIES JORDAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT

SERVICE'S SECTOR

JORDAN PETROLEUM REFIEARY
THE JORDAN WORSTED MILLS
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING

OURDAN CERAMIC IMPUSTATES
THE JORDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING
RAFIA INDUSTRIES
DAR AL DAMA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT
ARAB INVESTMENT & INFROATIONAL TRADE
ARAB ÁLUMINIUM INDUSTRY
LIVESTVOT & AND TRADE

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY
ARAS PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING

MATICHAL STREE INDUSTRY
JORDAN ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MATCH/JINCO
JORDAN SULPHO-CHRICALS
ANAS CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHRMICALS
TANTING THURSDANN

INDOSTRIAL SECTOR

NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET VALUE TRADED IN PARALLEL MARKET

UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES JORDAN INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO.

THE JURDAN CEMENT PACTORIES THE ARAB POTASE

JOHDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES

MATIONAL STREET INDUSTRY

KAWTHER INVESTMENT

GSAND TOTAL

MACHINARY MOUIP. RESTIEC & MAINTENANCE UNITED MIDDLE EAST & COMMODORE HOTELS ARAB INTER, FOR INVESTMENT & ROUCATION

JORDAN CULF HANK JORDAN ISLANIC BANK JORDAN ISVESIMENT & FINANCE BANK HEIT ELMAL SAVINGEINVESTMENT FOR HOUSING ANDAN BANK FOR ISVESIMENT PHILADELPHIA ISVESIMENT BANK.

JORDAN KUWAIT BANK JORDAN CULF BANK

BOLY LAND INSURANCE

# World semiconductor sales UAE reduces software piracy

made good progress enforcing new copyright laws but must do more to stop computer software pirates, officials said Sunday.

"Up to (the end of) 1994 we've got rid of 90 per cent of the copies of American and European works," Ahdol Aziz Al Madfaa, assistant undersecretary for censorship at the UAE's information

ministry, told a seminar on intellectual property. The UAE began enforcing new copyright laws last summer. Inspectors raided husinesses to confiscate unlicensed cassettes, videotapes and computer software and

other pirated goods. "We cannot say the law has been one hundred per cent implemented. Of course the implementation of the law

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET BUSING BARK CESTER ANDER - SEMEISANI TELEPHONE: 660170 / 663170 D MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SUNDAY 15/

ABU DHABI (R) — The has to be in stages," Mr. United Arab Emirates has Madfaa said, adding that the authorities would focus oo rounding up pirated copies of Arab works in 1995.

Mr. Madfaa said software piracy was particularly hard to clamp down on compared with other forms of piracy because copying was easy to cooceal and investigators needed specialist knowledge.

But he cited an industry estimate that software sales in the UAE had risen around 60 per cent since implementation began. "We've seen some changes

hut it's moving pretty slow-ly," Microsoft Middle East ly," Microsoft Manager Charles Allen told Retiters by telephone from Dubai.

"When they do these raids, they need to publicise them. Otherwise there is oo deterrent effect and they have to

PREV. CLOSING PRICE

183.250 183.250 4.200 4.230 4.180 4.150 5.900 5.870 3.030 3.030 1.540 1.540 3.680 3.680 4.410 4.380 3.160 3.150 1.500 1.500 1.630 1.620

CHANGE : -0.012

ER: 137.29

1.540 1.500 2.700 4.800 3.150 2.230 1.250 .730 2.400 3.490

2.940 9.150 9.640 7.600 5.380 6.200 2.750 16.200 1.010 6.950 ...840 1.390 4.140 1.900 2.680 1.800 4.140 2.010

THORY NUMBER: 131.29 CHANGE : -0.501

INDEX NON

1.530 1.490 2.600 4.900 3.150 2.350

1.220 .750 2.400 3.500

2,940 9,600 9,700 7,650 5,340 6,250 2,800 1,010 7,150 1,400 4,140 1,400 4,140 1,920 2,720 1,800 4,200 2,200 2,060

THURK NUMBER: 127.46 CHARGE 7 -0.40

TAPET NUMBER: 143.46

PRICE

CLOSING

VALUE

30

140749

305 1000

1460

51490

. 6761 \$570 '76405

4475

53322

100 400

550

26702

140426

raid everybody," he said. Other Arab Gulf states have brought in similar laws against piracy in the region. the Middle East's most developed market for informa-

tion technology. Sherif Saadullah, an official of the Geneva-based World Intellectual Property Organisation, said bringing the law fully to bear againstthe UAE's software pirates

"We all want to move fast (but) ... we should take into consideratioo that there's a whole government apparatus that has to be trained," he told the seminar.

would take time.

Microsoft belongs to the U.S.-based Business Software Alliance (BSA), a group of firms which combats software piracy.

The BSA says in 1993 piracy cost its members at least \$150 millioo in lost business in the UAE and Saudi Arabia alone, compared with \$300 million in the Middle East as a whole.

Piracy rates in the Arab Gulf states in 1993 were all over 90 per cent that year, the BSA says — in other words, there are over nine copies for every piece of legitimate software.

Mr. Allen said more companies in the UAE were getting legitimate software as a result of the law. The BSA is helping train software inspec-tors for the UAE government, he added. "But there's still a lot of piracy in shops. ...
it's moving in the right direction but it has to move fas-

### **JOB VACANCY**

A Local Jordanian Company is seeking to employ a Marketing Officer & A Chemical or . Environmental Engineer with the following qualifications:

Minimum 3 Years Experience. Fluent in English & Arabic.

Computer Literate(D.base & Microsoft windows) Individuals with the above experience are kindly asked to send their typed C.V. along with a recent photo to the following address:-

Attention of: The General Manager

P.O.Box: (1554).Amman 11118 - Jordan. Wa will be accepting all C.V. till January 25,1995



### ARABIC FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The Language Centre at the University of Jordan announces that the Intensive Course in Modern Standard Arabic for Speakers of Other Languages will commence on January 28, 1995 and will last for 16 weeks.

The programme is intensive. (Classes are in the morning and meet 20 hours per week, Saturday — Wednesday).

Those interested, please call at the Language Centre for registration or further information. Registration begins on Saturday, Jan. 21, 1995.

### JORDAN

### MARKET

Cheers



We also have many listings of villas, flats, and building lots FOR SALE Commercial and residential. For more details call:

**Abdoun Real Estate** Tel. 810605/810609 810520 Fax: 810520

alentino





FOR RENT

Deluxe Villas

& Apartments

in Amman

SANABEL

REAL ESTATE

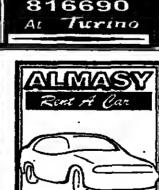
Tel. 864230

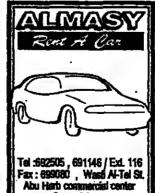
Fax. 864231

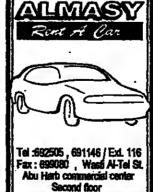
A SECURE

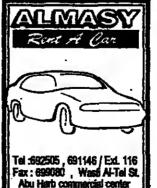
Hotel













**Quality Furnished Flats** 

One and Two Bedrooms

Reasonable Rates For

Short or Long Stay

5th Circle 74563 - 674









### STUDIO HAIG

opposite IRAQ FMBASSY

TEL:: 654205

ional Quality in Hour Service Develop your colour film at

our shop and get:-· JUMBO photo size 30% larger

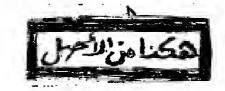
\* Free enlargement 20 x 30 cm Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlay: Bank. Phone: 604042

Swefieh tei: 823891









# Arabi take on Ramtha in Jordan Cup semifinal

By Aleen Bannayan Special to the Jordan Times

At

AMMAN — The Kingdom's second most the semifinal match of the Jordan Cup.

ter 1-0, therefore a win or draw will automati- 1991 and last won the Federation Shield in cally move them to the final against Al Faisali 1993. who reached the final after eliminating Al

after defeating Al Hussein 10-9 in a penalty Al Faisali, Al Ramtha and Al Hussein. Al

Titleholders Al Faisali are aiming to win their record eighth Jordan Cup title.

Although the team has had its ups and

successful soccer team have only won the 1994 the first and second rounds. Cup Winner's Cup.

In 1993. Al Faisali clinched the first divi-sion, the Jordan Cup and the Cup Winner's in Group 1. Al Arabi knocked out Kufrsoum Cup, and in 1992 they won the Jordan Cup. and Al Ramtha beat Al Ahli in Group 2. the Shield and the first division.

division were eager to add the '94 Jordan to have clinched the title seven times. Al Windai the Federation Shield title which they won by three times. Al Ramtha twice, and Al Jazireh defeating Al Faisali to clinch their first major and Al Arabi once each.

Q. t - Neither vulnerable, as South

you hold: **4Void** AKQJT54 643 **4Q**104

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
t 4 3 4 ?

What action do you take?

A.—East's preempt has achieved its purpose. Four hearts is a gross underbid: five hearts asks partner

for spade control; partner will read a four-spade cue-bid as agreeing clube, so all subsequent new-suit

bids also will be interpreted as cue-inds. Bite the bullet and bid six

Q.2-As South, vulnerable, you

hold:

#AKJ632 TQ AK74 #Q3
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 # Pass 2 # Pass

Annual rent JD 6,000.

during working hours.

computer literate.

<u></u>6

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Ground floor situated in Um Ulheina quarter, near Amra

Hotel, consists of two bedrooms, sitting room, guest &

dining room, kitchen and one bathroom. In addition to a

glassed veranda with a separate entrance and a nice

garden. With central healing and telephone......

If interested please call tel. 623725, 811068

IDEAL FOR EMBASSY STAFF

ONE LUXURIOUS SEMI-VILLA FOR RENT

NEAR U.S. EMBASSY - ABDOUN

Over 600 square metres. Each-four master bedrooms-

luxurious reception dining - spacious kitchen - family TV

rooms · guard/dnver/maids/laundry/firsI class French

Details contact owner directly - Tel.: 816 154

Wanted

Secretary required for busy office. Must have good experience, a university

degree and an excellent command of

English. The candidate should also be

Pleas fax CV's to 816894 or write to

P.O.Box 5476, Amman

Adjoining semi-yilla rented to senior embassy personnel.

title. The ream's only other best achievement was finishing second in the first division in 1990 and 1992.

Al Ramtha who are now two points behind important soccer compension nears its end leaders Al Wihdat in the first division have a Monday when Al Arabi take on Al Ramtha in good chance of reaching the final and have maintained a relatively consistent form this Al Ramtha had won their first leg encoun-season. They won the Jordan Cup in 1990 and

Al Arabi hope to repeat their 1986 Jordan Cup success when they overcame Al Jazireh Both Faisali-Hussein matches had ended in 1-0 to clinch their first major title. On their a scoreless tie. Al Faisali reached the final way to the final. Al Arabi had then eliminated Arabi had also reached the semifinal in the 1990 season but were knocked out by Al Hussein.

The knockout competition had begun on downs this season, Al Faisali are now third in Nov. 13 with 28 first and second division the first division with two matches remaining. teams divided into two groups. All first Unlike other season, the Kingdom's most division teams except for Al Karmel survived

In the quarterfinals, Al Hussein beat Al

Q.4-As South, vulnerable, you

**4KJ63 7943 ∜85 48732** 

The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
t & Dbl Pass?
What do you bid now?
A.—Don't even think about bidding one no trump—that shows about a king more than you have, despite the limited moon to many.

despite the limited room to money

ver. Partner has asked for your best suit, so oblige by bidding two chibs.

Q.6—East West vulnerable, as South you hold: AAS 782 A1094 AA9762

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 + Pass 2 + Pass
2 Pass ?

\* Studio of one bedroom, K & B.

★ One bedroom living room K & B. ★1 wo bedrooms, living-dining room K & B.

Central heating and telephones. Location: Jabal Amman bet 3rd & 4th Circles.

Only five teams have won the title since the Al Hussein, who are now fourth in the first competition was initiated in 1980: Al Faisali

GOREN BRIDGE

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

What do you bid now?

A.—Hands with 64 distribution present a problem to some. As a rule

of thumb, rebid the aix-card sunt only with a minimum opening. Since this hand is considerably bet-

ter than that, it is correct to rebid two diamonds, then plan to bid

two diamonds, then plan to be spades again at your next turn.

Q.3—East-West vulnerable.

South you bold:

•K2 76543 : KQJ3 •A63

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 7 1 • ?

What action do you take?

A.—You want to tell partner you have a good hand with heart support. A cue-bid of the enemy suit does just that. Bid two spades.

### Norwegian sprinter

# positive

OSLO (R) - Sprinter Aham Okeke has tested positive for doping again and is finished as an atblete in Norway, Norway's Athletics Association's chief said Sunday.

Lars Martin Kaupang. president of the association. said the result of a B-test confirmed the reading of an A-test which showed a high level of the hormone testos-

"He is finished as a top athlete in Norway," Kaupang told Norwegian radio. "Okeke has broken all the

Okeke, who came to Norway from Nigeria in 1982 and was granted Norwegian citizenship six years later. now faces a possible fouryear ban by the International Amateur Athletic Federa-

If the two-over-one response was a game force, all you need do for the moment is raise to three diamonds

If not, and you play fourth-suit forcing, this is the time to trot out two hearts. If neither of these treat-

ments is in your ermory, jump to

Q.6-As South, valuerable, you

hold: 4965 A94 Q72 48763 Partner opens the ridding with one heart. Wze: do you respond?

heart. What do you respond?

A.—You have perfect no trump distribution, but we are not brave enough to suggest you make that bid wrincut a supper in either black suit. Since you mest do something, we suggest you make to two hearts. This hand is easy, if you use the Foreing No Trump response—a preference to hearts on the next round will dampen partner's ardor.

Owner Tel.: 867862/642351

شقق مغروشة للإيجار FOR RENT

MODERN FURNISHED APARTMENTS

DELUXE APARTMENT FOR RENT

**FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED** 

First floor, new building, deluxe finishings. Al Rabia

district. Consists of three bedrooms, independent living

room, salon and dining, with central heating, lift, car park

Please call Tel. 601272 - 670530

APARTMENT FOR RENT

In West Amman, two bedrooms, with sepa-

rate central heating and water supply. Contact Tel. 819373, 17:00-20:30

# NEW YORK (R) — The New York Knicks had their

# tests

eight-game winning streak snapped by the league's top road warriors Saturday as Karl Majone scored 21 points and pulled down 12 rebounds to lead the Utah Jazz to a 86-81 win. The Jazz won for the 14th

time in 16 games and ran their road victory streak to 12, four short of the all-time record set by the Lakers 23 years ago. Malone and Jeff Hor-

nacek, who had 19 points. each scored five during a 10-0 spurt in the fourth quarter that gave the Jazz an 84-77 lead with 3:15 left.

Patrick Ewing, who led the Knicks with 22 points, 14 rebounds and six blocked shots, drew New York within 84-81 with two free throws. But Derek Harper missed a potential game-tying shot with 30 seconds left.

In Orlando Shaquille O'Neal scored 31 points and grabbed 10 rebounds and Dennis Scott added 18 points as the Magic raised their perfect record at home to 17-0 with a 91-70 pounding of the Philadelphia 76ers.

O'Neal connected on 14of-19 from the field and scored 11 points during the third quarter when the Magic pulled away en route to hand-ing the Sixers their eighth straight loss.

The Magic have won 13 of thewir last 15 while the Sixers have dropped 13 of 15.

At Indiana, Todd Day's tip-in with 1.2 seconds remaining lifted the Milwaukee Bucks to a 97-95 victory that snapped the Pacers' 10-game home winning streak.

Day tipped in Vin Baker's miss after Milwaukee squandered a 95-89 lead in the final minute. Glenn Robinson scored 21

points and Baker added 20 points and 10 rebounds for the Bucks, who won for just the third time in their last 17 road games.

Rik Smits had 22 points and 13 rebounds and Reggie Miller scored 21 points for Indiana, which suffered its first home loss since Novem-

In Oakland, Tyrone Hill scored 20 points and had a three-point play early in overtime that gave Cleveland the lead for good as the Cavaliers rallied for a 103-97 victory over the reeling Golden State Warriors.

The Warriors, who dressed nine players and played just seven, have dropped 18 of their last 19 games.

Latrell Sprewell played the entire game, pacing Golden State with 22 points.

In Los Angeles. Dan Ma-jerle scored 22 points despite sitting out the fourth quarter to lead seven players in double figures as the Phoenix

Scottie Pippen led the Bulls with 19 points, 11 rebounds and six assists, but left the game midway throught the fourth quarter with a pulled groin. Starting forward Toni Kukoc did not dress for Chicago due to a

At New Jersey, Rick Mahorn scored the last six points of a 20-4 second-half surge as the Nets rallied for a 93-84 victory over the Minne-

sprained right ankle.

sota Timberwolves. Derrick Coleman led the

Nets with 22 points and 11

RESULTS New Jersey

Utah

Charlotte

Orlando

Miami

Denver

Phoenix

Cleveland

son had 22 points as the Hornets extended their franchise-record winning streak to eight games with a 96-85 defeat of the Chicago Bulls.

their Franchise-best home winning streak to 11 games as Johnson scored at least 20 points for the ninth straight

### Nicole Miller for men perfume launched in Jordan



On the occasion of launching Nicole Miller perfume for men, in the Jordanian market, the Gifts Centreilbrahim and Khaled Abu Shakra Com-pany held a press confer-ence at the Marriott Hotel. Mr. Gilles Chatelain.

Concepts said at the press

lospired by the rugged textural smell of "Guy Things" like a Baseball Mitt and Leather Loafers. this fragrance captures the smooth softness of Nubuck Leather

the fresb essence of Nicole Miller for men inside and Our.

Anderson scord 16 of his 18-

In Dallas, Kevin Willis had

points in the second half for

range, with 17 points.

97 (OT)

New York

Golden State

New Jersey.

The fragrance was de-

No matter what his de-sire, age, or personality, be can be himself wearing Nicle Miller for men.

I want men to feel com-

**Houston Rocket Pete** 

Chilcutt (left) and Miami Heat centre Matt Geiger scramble for posse the ball during their NBA game (AFP photo)

NBA ROUNDUP

Jazz upset Knicks; Magic crush 76ers



Suns ripped the Clippers 134-

Danny Ainge and Charles Parkley, who also sat out the final quarter, added 18 points each and Danny Manning scored 16 against his former Barkley also missed nine

minutes in the second quarter when he needed two stitches to close a cut on his chin after being caught with an inadver-

The Suns have won 16 of their last 19 games.

In Denver. Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf scored a careerhigh 36 points and Reggie Williams recorded a tripledouble with 14 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds to lead the Nuggets to a 118-104 upset of the Houston Rock-

Hakeem Olajuwon led Houston with 41 points, giving him 88 points in the last two nights.

In Charlotte, Larry John-

The Hornets also extended

# VERY LUXURIOUS APARTMENTS FOR SALE OR RENT



inc. vice-president Riviera

conference:
Nicole Miller is fashion.
Her fashion is stimulated by design and translated into fabric and fragrance.

To complement Nicole Miller's treasured "perfume pouch." Nicole Miller for men is whimsically reflected in a rugged bottle and box. Contemporary corrugared contours encas

scribed by its creator Nicole Miller: "Every woman deserves the perfect companion and that is why I bave created one for her... My frangrance is for the young-thinking man it is a modern, warm massed line scent with the twist of nu-leather accord when lends a sense of comfort and ease to the fragrance It is for the classic yet sexy guy, who enjoys life's basic pleasures.

fortable when they experience the modern freshness of my new fragrance."

### SALINI ITALSTRADE J.Y. KARAMEH DAM PROJECT

SHMEISANI - AL HAMRA HOUSING

Fit for diplomatic missions, diplomals and businessmen.

Each apartment is with an area of 290 square metres.

consisting of four bedrooms, one of them master, maid's room, three verandas, large !cunge with an area of 85 square metres, very large kitchen, deluxe finishings, and

covered garages. All services are independent: two lifts.

Those Interested, pls. call engineer Marwan Al Ma'rouf, Tel. 843284.

wide entrance. The building is on two streets

We are looking for:

### Civil Engineers

They will cooperate to develop construction design to realise our projects.

Candidates profile: Age 25-30 years. Good knowledge of computers. Good autocad knowledge Fluent in English. Nationality: Preferably Jordanians. Please submit CV to:

SALINI-ITALSTRADE J.V. ALHIDAB BUILDING WEST OF GARDEN STREET AMMAN. TEL: 697685 FAX: 690941

### Total area 410 square metres, located in Abdoun - Damascus St. midway between the American Embassy and the British Embassy, containing the following:

**Semi Villa For Rent** 

- 1) Three master bedrooms with walk-in closets.
- Large fully equipped oakwood kitchen. 3) 75 square metres guest and dining
- rooms. 4) Spacious living room with fireplace.
- 5) Maid's quarters.
- 6) Private entrance, garage and garden.
- 7) Furnished or unfurnished.

For more information please call Tel.: 822569 or 813112 after 3:00 p.m.

**GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT** FOR RENT

# 2 bedrooms, 1 living room, 1 dining room, kitchen, 2

balhrooms, veranda, garcen. Location: near Philadelphia Hotel

Tel.: 690548 (2 p.m.)

### **FURNISHED ROOF FOR RENT**

Consists of one bedroom, sitting, large independent terrace, with central heating, telephone, third floor, Location: Jabal Amman, Fourth Circle, near the German and Swiss embassies. Annual rent is JD 2,250.

Please call Tel. 778952/673925 Amman.

### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY** NEEDED

dynamic, pleasant personality, good command of English and Arabic, typing in both lan-guages, has the ability to handle correspondence, computer skills; windows & excel. Applicants should send their CV which will be dealt with confidentially to: P.O.Box 1838 Amman 11118 - Jordan.

Attractive salary for suitable candidate.

Tel.: 634144 | Cinema

# A full time executive secretary is needed,

### PHILADELPHIA T 0 Jim Carrey

THE MASK

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Tel.: 699238 PLAZA Julia Roberts/Nick Noite I Love Trouble

> Shows 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 The Lion King Shows: 10:30, 12:30, 3:30, 5:00

CONCORD CONCORD "1" Sylvester Stallone - Sharon Stone

Tel.: 677420

THE SPECIALIST Shows: (2:30, 7:30, 5, 8:15, 10:30 CONCORD "2" Harrison Ford - Whitney Houston -

THE BODYGUARD

Tel.: 618274 - 618275 **AMMOUN THEATRE** SUM'A In the satirical play

HI CITIZEN Composed and directed by Mohammad Al Shawaqfeh Daily from 8.30 p.m. Children's Play The Ninja Turtles Show

Directed by Akram Abul Ragheb

\_Daily at 3.30 p.m. =

Tel.: 675571 Nabil Al Mashini Theatre **Presents** Abu Awwad in the social comedy

**Punctured Bag** The theatre is closed on Mondays Tickets are available all

Nabil & Hisham's Tel.: 625155 AHLAN THEATRE Presents: The political satire:

AL SALAM YA SALAM

at 8:30 p.m. For reservation, please call 625155 in English Sunday January 15, 1995

# - eceptive

Forts

IRNE (R) — Ten-illusionist Andre doubt. heatening to persme trick he per-ymbledon in 1992 makes his Austradebut this week. rained s now, the world with just ab-But sint gining connected tion, he he had from his hair back as to his eating love life. It scarce-He star his tennis until he watch a are and the ied ouf h

said the

vears.

do capi

most like

the chas

aside in

guicker a

2ppcars

Agass:

Traini

#SVE#S

mophy aloft on Cen-The is true this time Vegas showman nothing to divert is gaze. In fewer days in Melbourne have answered 2 dustions about his sac and a mere hand-; is form.

and time there is no doubt of excit as secretly working what it's beind the scenes. he looks by chartered jet round ಗಾ African ( nor look at Flinders duled io: esta from the jauni it same fee: Received at the rime. hope it's U.S. Open champion sed around the globe aprepared to listen to off ove period. she insisted Melit's appredictable voted hin and enclosed centre practice v Gilbert. guies unique probsa for the top players, suaded hi all the advice whiswas not d andre's earrings back to t nus years has been so ad But everyone afternoon on agree that the en-24-year-c iliteak Agassi took afinsists a b Surgery in December he a help as produced a more ance.

rebounds before fouling out a Better, at Agassi's suitable f late in the game. Kenny an the push lowards usually m Mama Juanita to oper

27 points and 15 rebounds to l generation are under-Мехию С lead the Miami Heat to an fine Hotel Inter. Constaff is abe 84-77 win over the Dallas in the grand opening Mavericks. with ಹಿಡು ತ Mavericks.
The Heat got 21 points, in Restaurant in Arrience in M well as Mr eight rebounds and seven chrespected to open its assists from Billy Owens,

Jamal Mashburn led the lading is the first who will be variety of

Mavericks, who were a dis-mal 1-of-17 from three-point range, with 17 points. wasty flown in from





MICES, MEETING ROC

Attractive & modem of Complete solutions

Jow at 693736 to design your

or visit our showroom r

Will the americ

PLEASED TO BRUARY 1995 - 29 MA inglish courses

dre held at 9:30 a.m.-11:30 4:30 p.m-6:30 p.m. an In English Skills, Levels 1-6 COUIRSES FOR RAMAI

Levels 1/2

Levels 3/4 Levels 5/6 Levels 5/6 Levels 6/7 oninge is 40 hours.

and Registration: dents should take a placement to 11:00 a.m., or I1:30 a.m. Please call 659-859

# Deceptive Agassi prepares for Open debut

JANUARY 16 19

nis's master illusionist Andre Agassi is threatening to perform the same trick he perfected at Wimhledon in 1992 when he makes his Australian Open debut this week.

Then, as now, the world was fascinated with just about everything coocected with Agassi, from his hair and clothes to his eating babits and love life. It scarcely noticed his tennis until he held the trophy aloft on Centre Court,

The same is true this time and the Las Vegas showman is doing nothing to divert Australia's gaze. In fewer than three days in Melbourne he must have answered a hundred questions about his appearance and a mere handful on his form.

Yet there is no doubt Agassi is secretly working hard hehind the scenes. Flying in by chartered jet from Adelaide oo Friday for an advance look at Flinders Park was far from the jaunt it may have seemed at the time.

The U.S. Open champion has played around the globe. but was prepared to listen to those who insisted Melbouroe's unpredictable weather and enclosed centre court creates unique problems even for the top players. Not all the advice whis-

pered past Andre's earrings in previous years has been so informed. But everyone seems to agree that the en-forced break Agassi took after wrist surgery in December 1993 has produced a more thoughtful player.

Boris Becker, at Agassi's shoulder in the push towards

anumus hallow fouling e

ne same. Kee.

ne in the second halfe.

n Du er Kevin Willist

rebound:

3 21 page 3 and see

.Tu. Michhan led a

were 2 is

d in Jordan

To the Date

ستننث w . 11122 ::<u>...</u> 1.5 fact Mate MELBOURNE (R) — Ten- Pete Sampras's world oumber one ranking, is in no doubt.

"He changed last year," said the German. "For many years, in my opinion, he trained too little and didn't do enough with his talent. But starting with his operation, he thought about what he had to change to come back as a top tennis player. He started to train more, watch more closely what he ate and the results are there."

Sampras himself has singled out his compatriot as the most likely man to leap from the chasing pack. Leaving aside the jokes about his shaven head making him quicker around court, Agassi appears as motivated as at any time in his career.

There's a certain amount of excitement not knowing what it's like," he admitted as he looked ahead to his first round match against South African Grant Stafford scheduled for Tuesday. "It's the same feeling as Wimhledon. I hope it's all it's cracked up to

Agassi took just five days off over the Christmas period, hnt otherwise devoted himself to training and practice with his coach Brad Gilbert, the man who persuaded him that talent alooe was not enough to take him back to the top.

Training in the midafternooo heat on Friday, the 24-year-old looked sharp and insists a hot fortnight would be a help rather than a hindr-

think the weather is suitable for me. My style usually means my opponeots



World No. 2 Andre Agassi, sporting a new hairstyle, with girlfriend Brooke Shields

are working harder than I am which is nice when it's 100

One person who won't be around to watch is the actress Brooke Shields, first to embrace Agassi after his U.S. Open triumph last Septem-

She is currenly playing the role of Rizzo in the Broadway production of Grease. which Agassi has reportedly seen 14 times. Melbourne audience are hoping for similar entertainment from her boyf-

> The victory extended her match winning streak to eight and followed a 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 thrashing of Davenport in the final of the Virginia Slims championship in November her last tournament.

Gabby is a tennis force

to be reckoned with again

Sabatini gave warning that

she would be a major Austra-

lian Open threat hy claiming

her second straight singles

The 24-year-old Argeno-nian glamour girl slammed

the door on a long and dehili-

tating form slump as she out-

played top seed Lindsay

Davenport to win the New

South Wales Open 6-3, 6-4 in

title Sunday.

A rejuvenaged Gabriela

Before the Virginia Slims, Sahatioi had not won a tournament since the Italian Open in May 1992. But these back-to-hack triumphs taking the number of career victories to 27 — were a vindication of her faith in

Sahatini had no hesitadon in listing herself with number one seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Mary Pierce among the favourites in the women's competition at the Australian Open starting Monday in Melbourne.

"Winning a tournament before a Grand Slam is just the best," said Sabatini, who is officially seeded fifth and starts with a first round match in Melhourne againsi Marianne Werdel of America. "I couldn't ask for anything more."

Davenport went further. She ranked 5ahatini behind only world number two Sanchez at the Open. Davenport said there had been a glaring change in Sabatini's game in a few months.

"She is striking the ball much harder now and she is really going for her first serve and making a loi," said the

"5her is now able to step in and really rip her forehand and she has got more confidence to hit her hackhand instead of just slicing or looping it.

### Women's tennis. rankings

Steffi Graf (Germany) Arantxa 5anchez (5pain) (3. Conchita Martinez (Spain)

4. Jana Novotna (Czech) 5. Mary Pierce (France) 6. Gabriela Sabatini (Argen-

7. Lindsay Davenport (USA) 8. Kimiko Date (Japan) 9. Natalia Zvereva (Belarus) 10. Magdalena Maleeva (Bul-

garia) 11. Anke Huber (Germany) 12. Iva Majoli (Croatia) 13. Mary Joe Fernandez

14. Brenda Schultz (Nether-15. Sahine Hack (Germany)

# 1st Division Soccer Championship

### 20th week heats up competition

By Aleen Bannayan Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The most astonishing results of the Kingdom's premier soccer competition will be credited to the past 20th week when Al Hussein lost their chance of capturing their first ever first division crown, while Al Wihdat remained at the top thanks to Al Qadissieh's 1-0 victory over Al Ramtha, and Al Arabi's unexpected 3-2 win over Al Hussein.

With only two more weeks to go, Al Windat now have a two point lead despite their 1-1 draw with Al Ahli. Their upcoming match is against Al Ramtha who trail in second place.

Al Hussein, who were the only other serious contenders and led the 12-team standings for most of the first round, began to lose their grip after their 2-1 loss to Kufrsoum in the 16th week. They later lost 2-0 to Al Ramtha, 1-0 to Al Wihdat, before their 3-2

loss to Al Arahi Friday. Al Ramtha's loss was their first in the second round. They have a tough match ahead with Al Wihdai, and an easy one

against Shabah Al Hussein. Titleholders Al Faisali moved up to third place after their 5-0 win over last-placed Al Jeel, while Al Jazireh consolidated their place among the top five after a convincing 3-0

win over Kufrsoum. The hattle at the other end of the standings is also very interesting.

Al Qadissieh are among

the last four with 18 points, however they have two easy matches against Sha-Al Hussein and Al

Al Arabi are eight with 19 points hut have more difficult matches against Al Ahli and Al Wihdat.

Al Ahli and Kufrsoum are tied with 20 points in sixth and seventh places.

Al Ahli next play Al Arahi and Al Jazireh, while Kufrsoum meet Al Faisali and Al Karmel.

Al Faisali, who won the title for the past two seasons, delighted their fans with a hat-trick from striker Jiryes Tadros while Firas Khalaileh and Mousa Awad added the other two in their 5-0 win over Al Jeel who are playing their final matches in the first divi-

Meanwhile, Al Jazirch continued to be one of the most surprising teams.

Although often threatened with relegation throughout most seasons, they have managed to keep a top-five standing espe-cially after their win over Kufrsoum. Violence erupted after

their match but was quickly contained by stadium police. The incident was reminiscent of their first round encounter at Al Mafraq Stadium when Kufrsoum fans attacked Jazireh's supporters with rocks causing one spectator

to lose his eyesight.
Although Al Wihdat's

fans were disappointed af-ter their 1-1 draw with Al Ahli, the other results kept the former champions at the top despite the fact that a win would have put their

coach's mind to rest. Jihad Ahdul Mun'em scored for Al Wihdat, but Nart Yadaj delighted Ahli fans with the equaliser in

the final minute. Al Wihdat owe a lot to Al Qadissieh's Mustafa Adam who secured his team's unexpected win over Al Ramtha.

Al Arabi's 3-2 win over Al Hussein was also a delightful surprise for Al

Although Al Hussein 100k the lead early in the 7th minute and did not expect to be stunned by three consecutive Arabi goals from Mohammad Alawneh and Ayman Al Omari, the team did not have the chance to equalise after Mohammad 5hweiler

added their second goal. Shahah Al Hussein scored a morale boosoog 2-1 win over Al Karmel to slighty improve their record, however both teams will accompany Ai Jeel and a still undecided team hack to the second division.

### Standings after 20th week

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Wihdat	20	13	7		26	4	33
Ramtha	20	13	5	2	41	12	31
Faisali	20	11	7	2	38	9	29
Hussein	20	13	2	5	48	23	28
Jazireh	20	10	5	5	29	18	25
Ahli	20	7	6	7	26	28	20
Kufrsomm	20	ġ	ž	ġ	28	31	20
Arabi	20	7	5	g	26	30	19
Qadissieh	20	6	6	g	23	24	īg
Shabab Al Hussein*	20	2	4	14	19	42	8
Karmel*	20	ī	4	15	13	50	6
Jeel*	20	ĩ	í	îĝ	11	57	3

\* Relegated to 2nd division.

### Mama Juanita to open at Hotel Inter. Continental

Final preparation are underway at the Hotel Inter.Con-tinental for the grand opening of Mama Juanita, the latest Mexican Restaurant in Amman. It is expected to open its doors to the public in the second half of January.

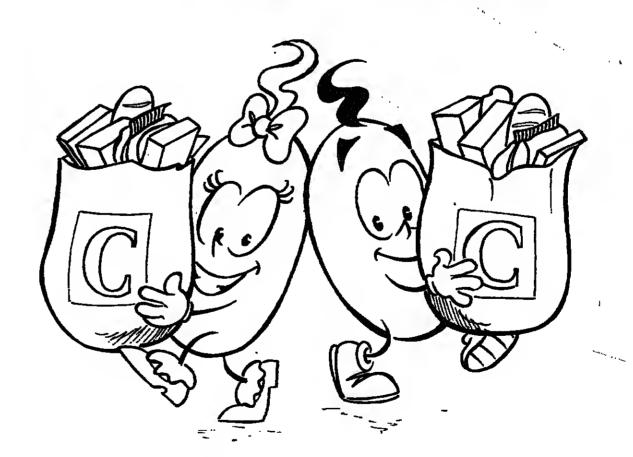
Mama Juanita is the first authentic Mexican Restaurant in town, with its own Mexican staff specially flown in from

Mexico City. Amongst the staff is chef Rene, who brings with him an extensive experience in Mexican cooking as well as Mr. Jose, har tender, who will be preparing a wide variety of real Mexican cock-

Mr. Jacco Klip, Food & Beverage Manager at Hotel Inter. Continental Jordan, dients, dinner services and spa-cial Mexican cooking utensils were flown in from Mexico...We have prepared for our visitors a well balanced menu guaranteed to please every taste." He adds: "Every day of the week, Mama Juanita will have a different promotion, which will be advertised in the

# says, "Most of the food ingre-

# Supermarket



We save you more Now open

Amman-7th Circle-Tel:814129

# FORUN SINITURE - We only acc Complete OFFICES, MEETING ROOMS, CHAIRS, PARTITIONS Attractive & modern designs to suit every taste. Complete solutions for your modern office Call us now at 693736 to design your office and suggest a layout free of charge or wist, our spostroom opposite Parlagentia Hotel



JABAL AMMAN THIRD CIRCLE POB: 676

the american language center

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS 4 FEBRUARY 1995 - 29 MARCH 1995 SESSION

Classes are held at 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.; 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.; 2:15 p.m. 4:15 p.m.; 4:30 p.m-6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

General English Skills, Levels 1-6 Each course is 80 hours.

SPECIAL COUIRSES FOR RAMADAN, 4 FEBRUARY - 28 FEBRUARY ginning Grammar Intermediate Grammas Levels 1/2 Reading/Conversation Levels 3/4 Advanced Grammar, Levels 5/6 Reading/Writing, Levels 5/6 American Film. Levels 5/6 Levels 5/6 GMAT, Level 6

Each course is 40 hours. Placement Test and Registration:

New students should take a placement test and register on January 18 & 25. <sup>§</sup>:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., or 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., or 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please call 659-859 for more information.

THEATRE esents: itical satire: tion please ca

# Infighting on economy jolts Rabin government

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's government, its popular support severely eroded, met on Sunday against a backdrop of bitter infighting over the economy and the fate of Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

Recent opinion polls show Mr. Rabin's ruling Labour Party, whose parliamentary backing for Middle East peace moves rests on a slim majnrity, has been hit hard by government economie policy, especially a capital gains tax.

The cabinet discussed at length Finance Minister Abraham Shohat's plan to cut the budget and pass savings nn to taxpayers. Bank nf Israel head Yaacov Frenkel later emerged from the meet-

ing and told reporters the cuts had been approved.

The \$240 million hudget reduction was approved after a major battle which saw nne minister warn the country. was heading for "economic

Seven of the 17 ministers voted against the cut, which affects several ministries and was called to cover an sdjustment in taxatinn.

Parliament approved a \$49 billinn budget in December, including a 7.9 per cent increase in defence spending.

MOGADISHU (Agencies)

— U.N. troops and civilians
were completing their retreat

from their sprawling com-

pound in Mogadishu to the

airport Sunday as warring sub-clans fought with heavy

weapons in the streets of the

Tanks accompanied the

convoys setting out from the

33-hectare compound, the

former U.S. embassy, leaving

behind a 950-strong Pakistani

security battalion to deter

looters as contractors remove

hood militias of the Muru-

sade and Abgal factions of

the Hawiye clan were battling

with mortars, recoillees

rifles, rocket-propelled gre-

nades and beavy machine-

not impeding the evacuation

of the compound — resumed

Saturday after a nine-day lull

and increased in intensity

Sunday as clan elders met to

try to cement a peace accord

to follow a ceasefire sgreed

sub-clans in Bermuda and in

the Medina district of south

Mogadishu left close to 200

dead and some 700 wounded,

between early December and

It followed the defection of

Murusade leader Mohammad

Qanyare Afrah from the

Fighting between the two

on Jan. 5.

early January.

which was

In the Bermuda neighbour-

The reduction sparked friction within the cabinet highlighted by a leaked report from Police Minister Moshe Shahai. He warned the gov-ernment was "hurtling fullspeed towards an economic saster while the economic leadership seems unaware of

where it is heading. Mr. Shahal, whn wants to be finance minister according to Israel Radin, said the publie was dissatisfied and predicted that higher social security payments "threaten to bring the disaffection of the middle class to the boil." Inflation reached 14.5 per cent in Israel last year compared with 11.2 per cent in 1993, the Central Bureau of

Statistics announced. The government had predicted eight per cent at the start of 1994.

Before Sunday's meeting. ministers traded verbal blows prompted by media accounts nf the report hy Mr. Shahal to Mr. Rabin containing sca-thing criticism of Mr. Shohat

and other economic officials.

Ministers of the leftist
Meretz, Labour's largest coalition partner, have also demanded that Hnusing Minister Binyamin Beneliezer reveal plans on expanding West Bank Jewish settlements, something Meretz says could wreck peace talks

U.N. completes evacuation

from Mogadishu compound

camp of warlord Ali Mahdi

Mohammad, who controls north Mogadishu, to that of

General Mohammad Farah

Aideed, who controls most of

Medina - beside the air-

port — was calm Sunday

pecause the Abgals have

chased the Murusade nnt of

the area, leaving it an enclave loyal to Mr. Ali Mahdi.

der Musa Sudi Yalaho made

it clear Sunday that his men

are likely to fight Gen. Aideed's militias for control

Speaking at his beadquar-ters deep inside the battered

district, he told AFP: "It is

my responsibility to run the

airport. We consider it our

property, so we shall defend

if Aideed's men try to loot

Officials of General

Aideed's Somali National

Alliance have said that both

the airport and the port are in

their area, and that they will

run both facilities after the

U.N. troops leave Somalia by

the time their mandate ex-

Some efforts sre con-

tinuing to try to constitute

joint committees to run both

Yalaho said his militias

would respect the U.S.

embassy compound as U.S.

property, but added that "we

may react" if Gen. Aideed's

the port and the airport.

pires on March 31.

of the airport.

Medina military comman-

the south of the city.

with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

But prolonged wrangling over the budget delayed the discussion on settlements. cabinet sources said.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid of Meretz, a seninr peace negotiator, said Mr. Shahal and other cabinet critics of treasury policies were doing the work of the hardline Likud opposition.

"The impression here is that some Labour Party ministers have decided to bring down the government," Mr. Sarid said.

"The right and settlers who want the government weakened couldn't have wished themselves mare enthusiastic collaborators," he told army radin. "The truth is that if I were prime minister, I would throw all these guys down the stairs.'

The report by Mr. Shahal, prompted banner headlines Sunday newspapers.

The report was quoted as describing economic policies as 'confused... shot from the hip" and s result of "lead-ership failure by ministers responsible for the economy."

Israelis had hoped for economic dividends from a peace process that went into high gear when Mr. Rabin's centre-left government came to power in mid-1992.

militias occupy it and used

U.N. staff freed

A group of foreign staff of the United Nations mission in Somalia were freed on Sun-

day after negotiations with gunmen who held them hos-

tage on Saturday, U.N.

The kidnappers had de-manded money that they said

they were owed by the Un-

ited Nations. It was not clear

on what grounds they had agreed to free the bostages.

United Nation's chief trans-

port officer, Ray Botham, He

was back at work by midday

on Sunday, apparently un-

Somali sources said only

five people bad been held but U.N. military spokesman Major Zubair Chattha on

Saturday put the number at

A Somali source said:

Maj. Chattha said former

"They removed the gunmen

from the area. It is all nor-

U.N. Somali staff, deman-

ding what they said were

overdue payments, entered a U.N. residential building

near Mugadishu airport and

seized the foreign employees.

(Continued on page 7)

Among those held was the

sources said.

harmed.

### Crown Prince. **Princess Sarvath** return home\_\_\_\_

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvatb returned home Sunday after a several-day private visit in the United Kingdom. Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath were received at the airport by His Majesty King Hussein. They were also received by several Princes and Princesses, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qassem, the King's advisors, the Crown Prince's advisor, the direc-tor of the Crown Prince's office, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the directors of the General Intelligence and Public Security Departments, senior Royal Court officials and the British ambassador

to Jordan and his wife.



### Jordan calls on Israel to resolve refugee problem

CAIRO (Petra) — Jurdan on Sunday tald a meeting by Arab countries bosting Palestinian refugees that Israel was responsible for the delay in implementing U.N. resolutions and in perpetuat-ing the sufferings of the re-

fugees.
"The international community should shoulder its responsibilities and exert pressure on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories and allow the refugees to be repatriated," Asem Ghosheb, Jordan's delegate,

told the meeting, Mr. Ghosheb said the sustainability of peace requires implementation of the peace accords on the ground so that justice and bonorable peace can be achieved.

"He called on Israel to halt its Jewish settlement prog-rammes in the occupied lands and end its burnan rights violations to ensure the success of the peace process. Mr. Ghosbeb, head of the

Department of Palestinian Affairs, said the Palestine question was Jordan's main concern in the region and the Kingdom would pursue efforts to alleviate the Palestinian people's suffering

He said Jordan calls on the bost countries represented at the meeting to discuss the activities and the services offered to the refugees by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

problem is resolved.

He stressed the need for the agency to continue its services in all its fields of operations until the refugee

by all possible means.

A spokesman for the independent group, contacted by telephone from Cyprus, said Diers had

captured three villages near Arbil: Keshnizam, Hasarok and Ceman.

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Fierce clashes have flared

anew for control of the main

town in Kurdish-held north-

ern Iraq, leaving "dozens of

dead" and shattering a three-day hill, Kurdish officials said

Sunday. Officials in Tehran said the

Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) of Massud Barzani

launched a new offensive on

Saturday against the Patriotic

Union of Kurdistan (PUK) of

Jalal Talabani, taking control

of several areas near Arbil.

In London, a PUK official

cknowledged the KDP had

taken "some pockets" in the

suburbs of Erbil, the seat of

an Iraqi Kurdish "parlia-

ment," but he said the main

thrust of the assault was re-

The KDP had left behind

"dozens of dead" on the

ground, Sami Shorash told

the London-based Arabic

newspaper Al Hayat, without

giving casualty figures for his

on, both sides have reported

victims," said the Kurdish

Information Centre, also

"Fierce fighting is going

pelled.

own group.

based in London.

Mr. Barzani himself supervised the assault, other Kurdish sources told Al Hayat. PUK radio and television stations, meanwhile, called on Mr. Talabani's fighters to

flare anew in northern Iraq

Dozens dead as Kurdish clashes

mobilize in defence of Arbil. An artillery dnel has also broken out in the Shaqlawa region to the east, which the KDP took over from PUK last month. Al Hayat said Mr. Barzani

refused to abide by a ceasefire brokered on January 8 by the Iraqi National Congress (INC) opposition alliance un-less Mr. Talabani withdrew his forces from Erbil.

The PUK captured the city in late December. Ahmad Chalabi, head nf

the INC, has broken off his mediation in protest at the renewed bloodshed after a full since Wednesday, the newspaper added.

Fighting which erupted on Dec. 24 claimed between 100 and 500 lives, according to different Knrdish sources. There has been no independent estimate on the overall

Iraq's ambassador to Ankara said thousands of civilians died in the month of fighting which caused an exodus from north Iraq.

Ambassador Raffi Al Tikriti told Turkey's Anatolian civilians had been killed in Erbil alone.

Mr. Tikriti said there was "a beavy migration" of civilians east to Iran and south towards territory held by Iraqi government forces. Turkey said last week more than 500 Iraqi Kurdish guer-rillas and civilians had died in the PUK-KDP fend.

Mr. Tikriti said Turkey's Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) guerrilla group, which has bases in northern Iraq, was aiding the PUK.

There is a close relatinnship between the PKK and Talabani," he told Anatolian. The Turkish Foreign Ministry has warned the two Iraqi Kurdish groups not to cooperate with the

The Foreign Ministry held meeting last week with the Ankara representatives of the PUK and KDP to work out a ceasefire. The PUK says the clashes started after a dispute over the payment of taxes to the Kurdish administration in Erbil.

The PUK and KDP, sharing power in northern Iraq since 1992, vie for supremacy although they have fougth together against the forces of President Saddam Hussein; who crushed a Kurdish rebellion after Baghdad's Gulf war defeat in 1991.

Kurdish-held territory in northern Iraq is protected from government troops by a Western allied air force based

in sonthern Turkey. The PUK is stronger in the southern part of the Kurdish area, while the KDP's main base is to the north near Turkey.

### **Britons favour** William, not Charles, as king

LONDON (R) — Most peo-ple in Britain want Prince William, not his father Prince Charles, to become king, according to a Sunday newspaper poll. "Prince Charles' popularity has fallen to such a low that 54 per cent of people now want his son to inherit age of 18 before the queen dies," the said. Forty-two per cent sup-ported Prince Charles and four per cent were undecided. A majority of the 1,000 people questioned in the ICM survey also said that Princess Anne, Prince Charles' younger sister, would make a better monarch. The poll, which was taken after it was announced earlier this week that the prince's long-time mistress Camilla Parker Bowles and her husband would divorce. Prince Charles and his wife Princess Diana separated two years ago after more than a decade of marriage. Their eldest son Prince William will be 18 in six years time, but Queen Elizabeth has given no indication that she will abdicate in favour of her son or grandson. 'The long-term prospects for the monarchy are still grim. More than one in four now think the monarch will go in the next 10 years and 29 per cent say they would be better off without a royal family now," the newspaper said.

. º i ; . .

### **U.K.** minister gets animai rights threat

LONDON (R) - Animal rights activists campaigningagainst the export of live calves from Britain to continental Europe have threatened the life of a minister who allowed animals from his farm to be shipped, & Sunday newspaper said. The Mail on Sunday, quoting a senior police source, said Agriculture Minister William Waldegrave received a letter booby-trapped with razor blades at his home. "Those close to Mr. Waldegrave are now extremely concerned over his safety as he has become the number one target of a group described by ous fanatics, after the IRA (Irish Republican Army)," the newspaper said. Mr. Waldegrave has come under fire from animal rights protesters for the involvement of his family's dairy farm in the export of calves which are crated up to be slaughtered for veal meat. The reported threat is the latest episode in an increasingly violent campaign against the export of live calves which began two weeks ago when demonstrators besieged the port of Shoreham in southern England. Protesters have clashed repeatedly in several areas of the country. Police arrested five people Saturday near the docks in Plymouth, southern England, as they escorted 16 trucks with calves and sheep past a protesting crowd of 40 people. On Friday, activists prevented a convoy of lorries carrying calves from entering Swansea Airport in Wales when a protester got under neath the first vehicle and chained himseld to the axle. Malawi ministries' phones cut for not paying bilis

BLANTYRE, Malawi (R) Malawi's post office has cht off parliament's telephones and those of many government ministries for not paying their bills. Posts and Telecommunications Corporation chief accountant Eddison Chidzamika told Reuters Saturday that customers were warned last month that services would be disconnected unless the bills were paid by Dec. 31. Govermment sources said the entire capital hill area housing government ministries in the administrative capital Lilongwe had been cut off. Parliament in Zomba, northeast of Blantyre, was also without phones for non-payment of bills. Mr. Chidzamika said that by last October, government ministries and offices owed about \$3.0 million and private companies about \$1.0 million. We are going ahead with disconnections until the total bill is cleared," Mr. Chidzamika said, adding he had already recovered \$1.0 mg-lion in a week. Only hearth institutions were being spared because they provided essential services.

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Air force fails in Iraq coup — Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) - Iraqi air force officers mounted a coup against President Saddam Hussein but he escaped assassins' bullets near nne of his palaces around Baehdad, the official Iranian news agency reported Snnday. IRNA. quoting Iraqi sources in Amman, said 14 air force officers were arrested and their alleged ringleader. General Mohammad Mazloum Al Dalimiyi, was "savagely" ecuted. The coup was foiled after gunmen failed in hit the Iraqi president near Al Ramadi palace, it said. But IRNA gave no date for the failed coup, and there was nn immediate comment nn the report from Baghdad nr the Iraqi opposition in exile. The Iraqi air force was devastated in the 1991 Gulf war for Kuwait, with many warplanes flown to safety in neighbouring Iran, which itself fought a 1980-1988 war against Iraq.

### Nasreen's trial put back for third time

DHAKA (AFP) - The trial of exiled Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasreen was put hack Sunday for the third time after the presiding Magistrate fell ill. Idrisur Rahman, a lawyer for the writer, said Assistant Chief Metropolitan Magistrate A.K.M. Kamaluddin, whn was scheduled to hear the case, was sick and had set Jan. 23 as the new date. The defence also submitted an application saying the magistrate's court "is not competent to proceed further without (the) sanction" if the government as ordered by the high court. Last Tuesday, a two-judge high court bench rejected a request by Ms. Nasreen's lawyers that her trial in absentia for blaspheming Islam be dismissed. But the judges ordered the magistrate to halt the action until the prosecution gets formal approval for the trial from the interior ministry. Senior legal sources said the magistrates court could also ask for the approval. They said it was difficult to say if the sanction would be ready by Jan. 23.

### Dudayey's son buried following death in battle

MOSCOW (AFP) - The elder son of Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev was buried on Saturday after dying of wounds received in the Chechen conflict, the ITAR-TASS news agency said here Sunday. It quoted the chairman of Chechenya's council of elders, Said Achmed Adivov. The chairman did not specify where Ovlur Dudaev, aged 23, was buried. He was injured on Dec. 26 during an attack on Russian forces near Argun, east of Grozny. Dzhokhar

Dudayev has led a month-long fight by Chechens against interventinn by Russian forces to crush Chechenya's three-year-old secessinn bid. The Chechen leader, who is married to an ethnie Russian, has one surviving son, and a

### Iran scales down ties with Norway

TEHRAN (AFP) - Iran has decided to scale down its diplomatic relations with Nnrway in protest at Oslo's support" for Iranian opposition groups and British writer Salman Rushdie, a weekly newspaper said here Sunday. A Foreign Ministry official told Kayhan-e-Havaii that Iran would "continue to maintain relations with Norway at a reduced level until Oslo changes its attitude towards" the Islamic republic. Iran's ambassadur to Norway Abdo Rahim Gavahi was recalled earlier this month for hinning in a letter to the Nnrwegian foreign ministry that his government could change its policy nn the death sentence issued against Mr. Rushdie. The late founder of the Islamic republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, condemned the author to death in 1989, saying his navel "The Satarric Verses" had blasphemed against Islam. Since Ayatollah Khomeini's death Iranian leaders have upheld the sentence despite strong criticism from Western countries.

### Kuwait should study quake risk — scientist

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait should respond to recent earth tremors by monitoring seismie activity more closely to assess the risk to residents and milfields, a scientist said in remarks poublished on Sunday. "The populace should be forewarned that Kuwait could experience more tremors," U.S.-educated Kuwait University geophysicist Firyal Bourabee was quoted as saying by Al Sevasseh newspaper and the English-language Arab Times. Kuwait bas recorded several tremors in recent weeks and newspapers bave reported heightened concern over safety among residents. Oil experts say no earth tremor damage to piffelds has been recorded since the start of commercial production 50 years ago. In late December Kuwait recorded a small tremor measuring 3,3 on the Richter scale. Residents recorded a series of tremors this munth although nn official measurements have been published. Al Watan newspaper said earlier this month it had received angry calls from residents demanding the government investigate the tremors and publish the results.

# Board chairman and fired editor of Sawt Al Shaab trade charges

By Ayman Al Safadi Jurdan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Press Association (JPA) is looking into the reasons be-hind the firing of the chief editor of Sawt Al Sha'b Arabic daily, Abdul Salam Al Tarawneh, hnt the company'schairman of the bnard. Abdul Hai Al Majali, says that any effort to reinstate

the editor would be futile. JPA President Sulciman Qudah declined comment on the incident beyond saying that the association had received a complaint from Mr. Tarawneh and would follow up the issue with the concerned authorities.

Informed sources also said that the government, which owns 80 per cent of the paper, is also looking into the incident.

But Mr. Majali said the decisinn to dismiss Mr. Tarawneh, which was taken last week, was final and it had the approval of all members of the board of the financially-troubled news-

Mr. Tarawneh told the Jordan Times that his dismissal from the paper was prompted by his rejection of managerial intervention in the editorial policy of the paper, adding that Mr. Majali unilaterally took the decision to fire him without the consent of the board.

He said troubles between bim and Mr. Majali started when the chairman began attempting to have articles that "unfairly and unprofessionally criticise Jordanian political figures" published in the paper.

Mr. Tarawneb, who took over the editorship of the paper in July last year, said he refushed to publish such articles which Mr. Majali



Abdul Hai Majali

wanted to have printed under false names.

The incident that brought the confrontation to the decision to fire Mr. Tarawneh was the editor's refusal to publish an editorial stating that former Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali was to form the new government despite strong reports that Shar-if Zeid Ben Shaker was to head the new cabinet, Mr. Tarawneh said.

He said the chairman of the board, whn is also general manager of the paper. wanted nther articles extremely critical of Jordanian personalities to be published m the paper under the signature of the "editor," even though they were written by other people, including an editorial consultant who was hired by Mr. Majali against

the will of Mr. Tarawneh. Mr. Majali, a brother of former Prime Minister Majali, also tried to use "the power of people outside the paper to influence the policy of the paper," said Mr. Tarawnch.

Mr. Tarawneh showed this reporter an article critical of a parliamentarian and signed by a "citizen from Karak" as an example of the articles



Abdul Salam Tarawneh

which, he said, Abdul Hai Majali wanted to ran in the paper without the names of their writers. "I couldn't have allowed

such articles to b? published, especially that they are not signed by the people who wrote them," said Mr. Tarawneh.

Mr. Majali rejected these charges, saying the decision to fire the editor was prompted by his failure to cooperate with the management and the decline in the performance of the publication.

He said he had asked Mr. Tarawneh in July to reorganise the cadres of the newspaper, which is 80 per cent owned by the government, but Mr. Tarawneh ignored the request as well as a similar one made in December.

Mr. Majali said the refusal of the editor to cooperate with the management resulted in a decline in the performance of the debtplagued paper. That, he said, prompted

the board to take the decision to fire Mr. Tarawneh.
But Mr. Majali said he asked the board of directors to entrust him with solving

(Continued on page 7)

